

# REPORT DOCUMENTATION PAGE

Form Approved  
OMB No. 0704-0188

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 1 hour per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing this collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden to Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Directorate for Information Operations and Reports (0704-0188), 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302. Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number. PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ADDRESS.

1. REPORT DATE (DD-MM-YYYY)	2. REPORT TYPE Technical Paper	3. DATES COVERED (From - To)		
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE			5a. CONTRACT NUMBER	
			5b. GRANT NUMBER	
			5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER	
6. AUTHOR(S)			5d. PROJECT NUMBER 2303	
			5e. TASK NUMBER M1A3	
			5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER 346127	
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT	
9. SPONSORING / MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES)  Air Force Research Laboratory (AFMC) AFRL/PRS 5 Pollux Drive Edwards AFB CA 93524-7048			10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)	
			11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S NUMBER(S)	
12. DISTRIBUTION / AVAILABILITY STATEMENT  Approved for public release; distribution unlimited.				
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES				
14. ABSTRACT				
20030127 191				
15. SUBJECT TERMS				
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT A	18. NUMBER OF PAGES
a. REPORT Unclassified	b. ABSTRACT Unclassified	c. THIS PAGE Unclassified		19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON Leilani Richardson
				19b. TELEPHONE NUMBER (include area code) (661) 275-5015

MEMORANDUM FOR PRS (In-House Publication)

FROM: PROI (STINFO)

22 March 2002

SUBJECT: Authorization for Release of Technical Information, Control Number: **AFRL-PR-ED-VG-2002-065**  
Capt. Rene I. Gonzalez, "Synthesis and In-Situ Atomic Oxygen Erosion Studies of Space-Survivable  
Hybrid Organic/Inorganic Polyhedral Oligomeric Silsesquioxane Polymers"

**Ph.D. Dissertation Defense**

(University of Florida, FL, 04 April 2002) **(Deadline: 04 Apr 02)**

(Statement A)

A3

DTB✓

UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA



Chemical Engineering Department



**Synthesis and In-Situ Atomic Oxygen Erosion  
Studies of Space-Survivable Hybrid  
Organic/Inorganic Polyhedral Oligomeric  
Silsesquioxane Polymers**

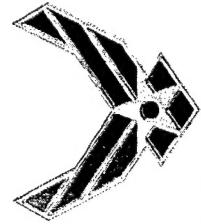
**DISTRIBUTION STATEMENT A**  
Approved for Public Release  
Distribution Unlimited

**Ph.D. Dissertation Defense**  
for

**Capt Rene I. Gonzalez**

**Materials Application Branch**  
**Space and Missile Propulsion Division**  
**Air Force Research Laboratory**

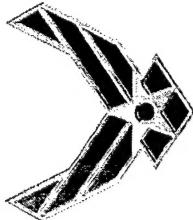
**Research Advisor: Prof. Gar B. Hoflund**



# Polymeric Materials



- Cost is the variable plaguing all space missions. (\$6,000 to \$10,000/1b to put payload in orbit)
- Materials are one of the main drivers of cost for space missions.
- Polymers offer many advantages (lightweight, easy to process, versatility)
- However, polymers are subject to severe degradation in Low Earth Orbit space environment



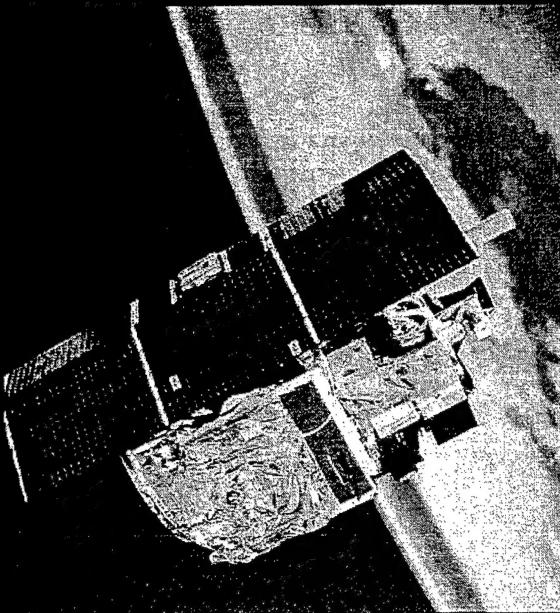
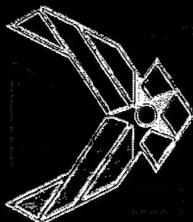
# LEO Environment (Altitudes of 200 to 1500 km)



- Atomic Oxygen
  - $\sim 10^8$  atoms/cm<sup>3</sup>
  - Formed from photo-dissociation of O<sub>2</sub> in atmosphere.
  - Actual flux on spacecraft traveling at 8 to 12 km/s  $\sim 10^{15}$  atoms/cm<sup>2</sup>•s
  - collision energy  $\sim 5$  eV
- Low-energy and high energy charged particles.
- Thermal cycling -50 to 150°C
- Solar UV and VUV radiation
  - VUV wavelengths in LEO extend below 290nm.
  - Bond scission and radical formation can lead to embrittlement.



# Goal: Develop Multi-Functional, Space-Survivable Materials (AFOSR/ER)



Material	Atomic Oxygen Reaction Efficiency $\text{cm}^3/\text{atom}$	Rel. Rates*	LEO
Kapton	1	3.0 $\times 10^{-24}$	
Polyethylene	0.9	3.7 $\times 10^{-24}$	
FEP Teflon	<0.03	<0.05 $\times 10^{-24}$	
FEP Teflon (Solar Max)	0.6	1.0 $\times 10^{-24}$	
Siloxane-imide block copolymers(25% /75%)	0.1	0.3 $\times 10^{-24}$	
Epoxy	0.6	1.7 $\times 10^{-24}$	

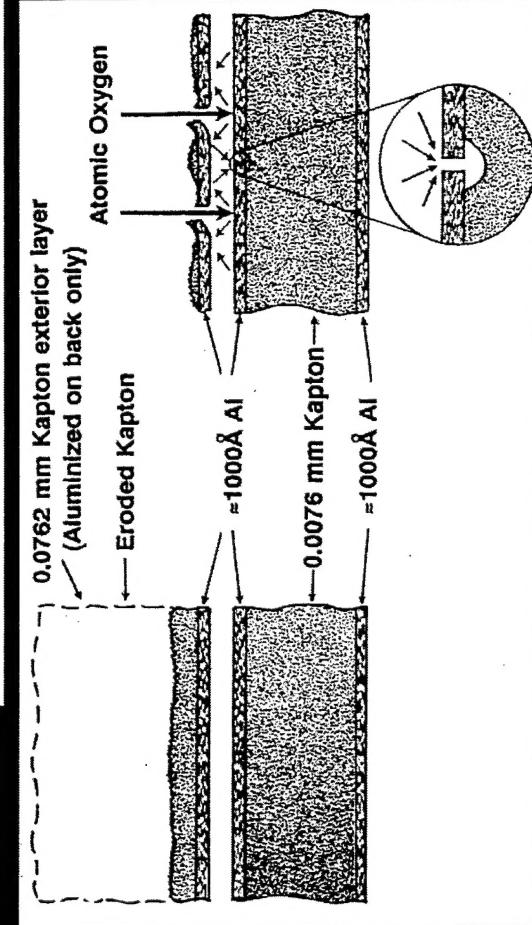
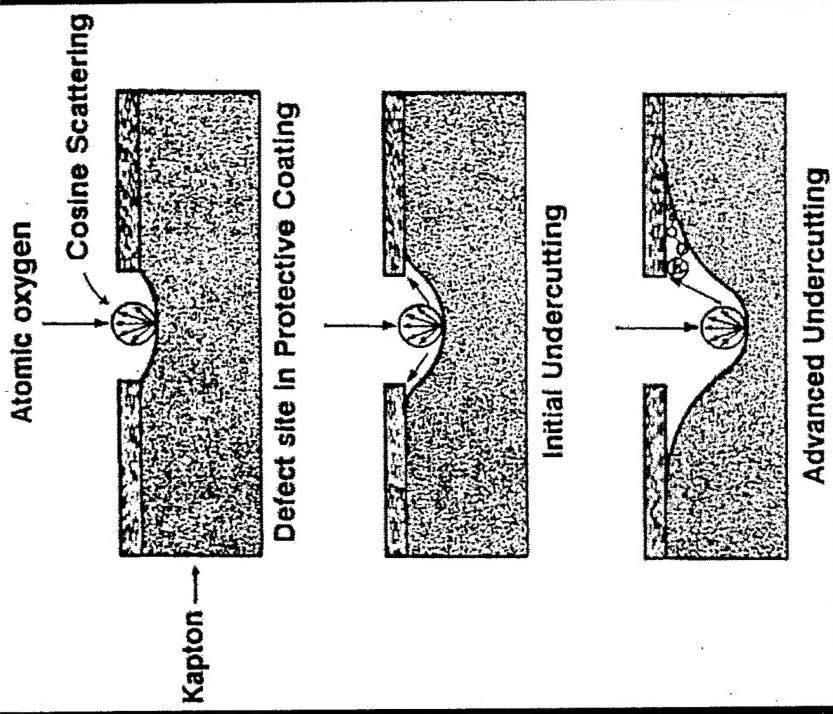
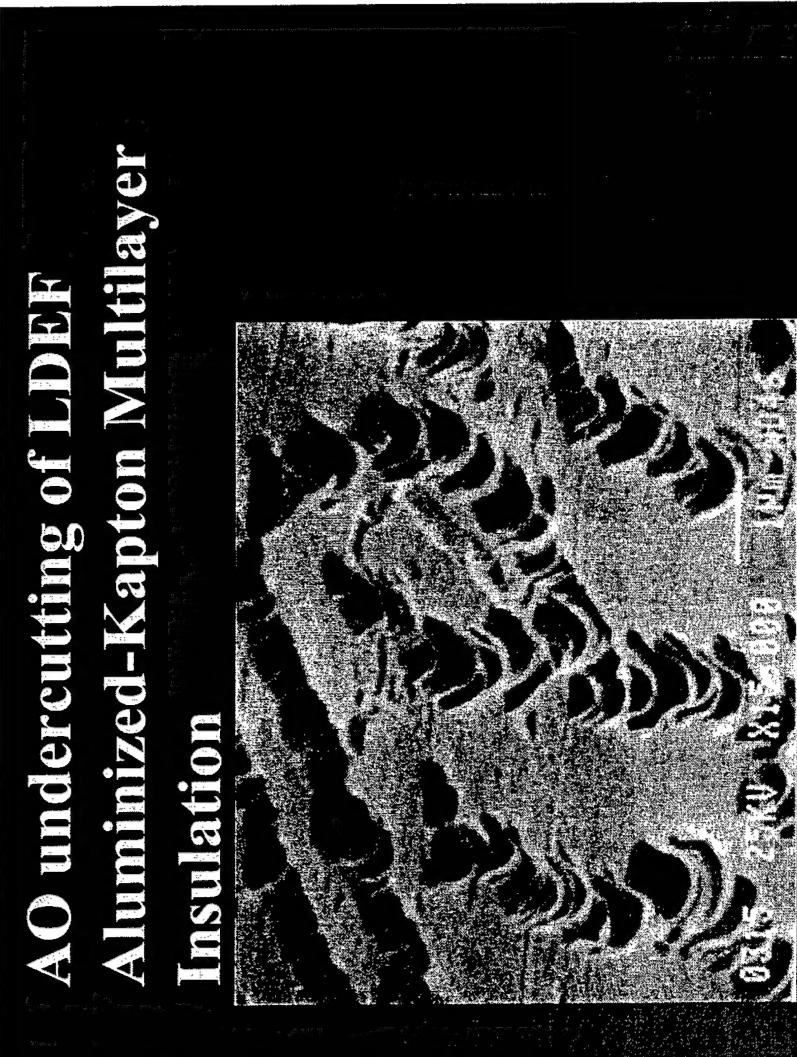
## Satellites & Space Systems

### Objectives

- Increase Space Resistance (AO, particle & VUV radiation, thermal cycling) of Polymeric Materials

- Self-Passivating/Self-Rigidizing/Self-Healing based on Hybrid organic/ inorganic nanocomposite incorporation

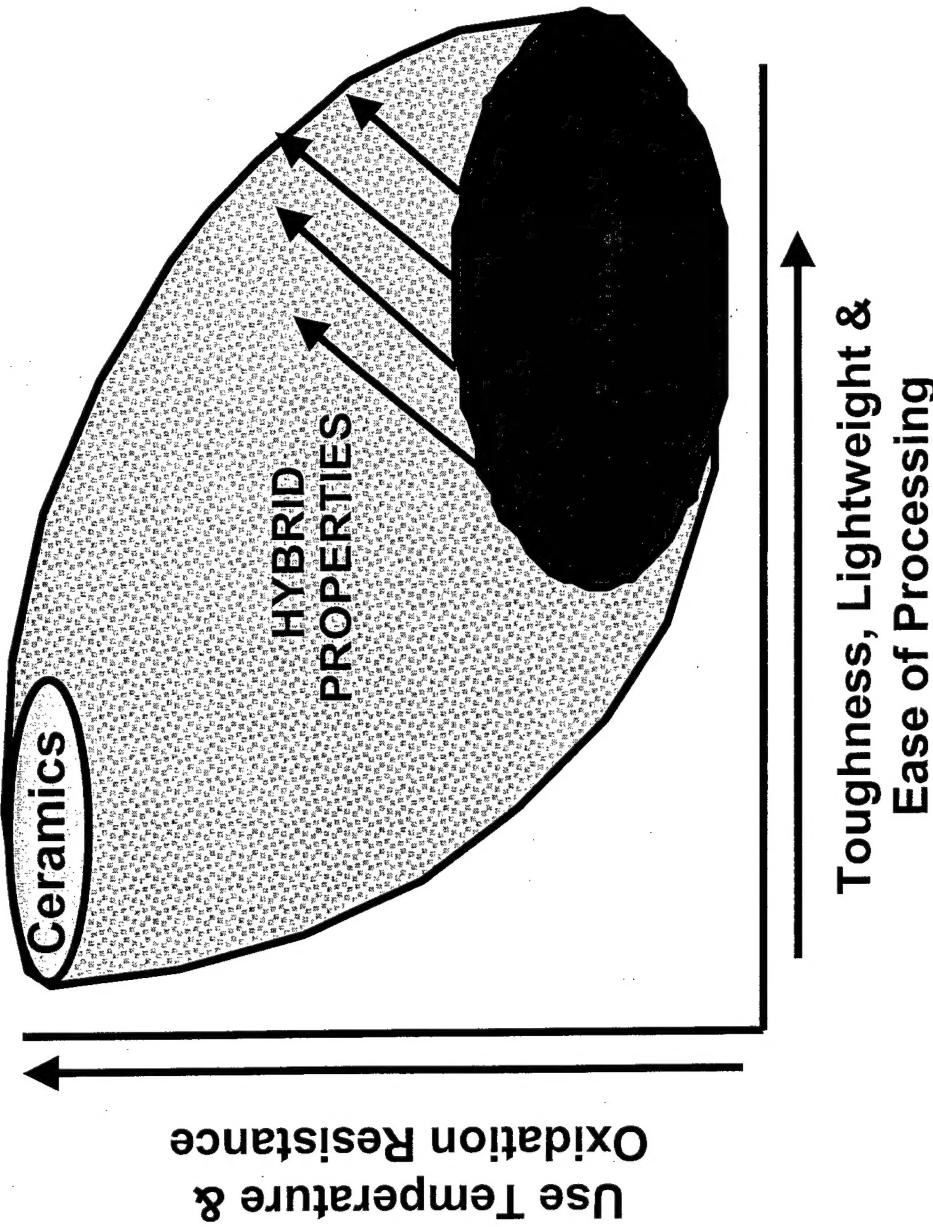
# AO undercutting of LDEF Aluminized-Kapton Multilayer Insulation



## Propulsion & Space Technology is Limited by Material Properties

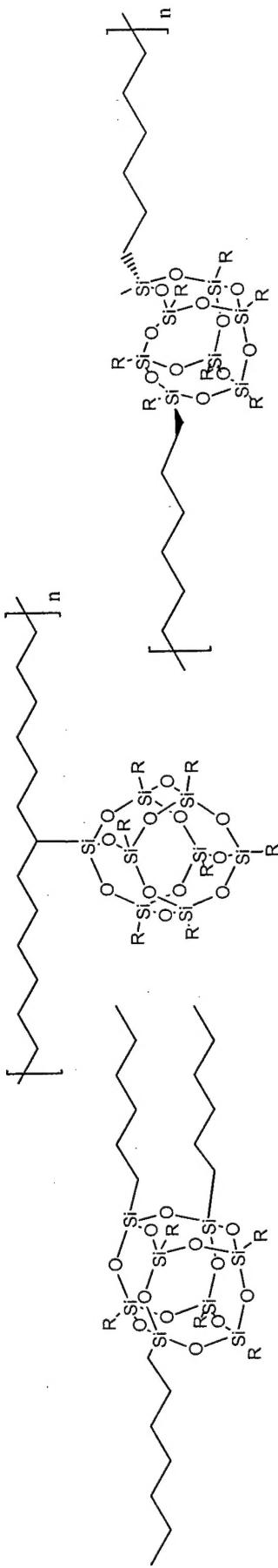
---

Goal: Develop High Performance Polymers that REDEFINE material properties

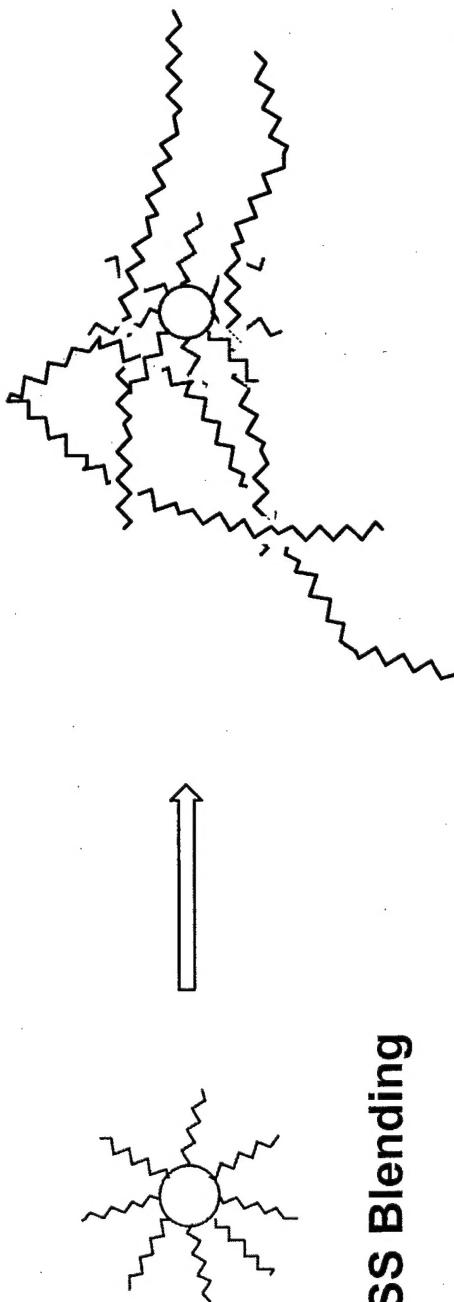


- Hybrid plastics can bridge the barrier between ceramics and polymers

# **POSS Polymer Incorporation**

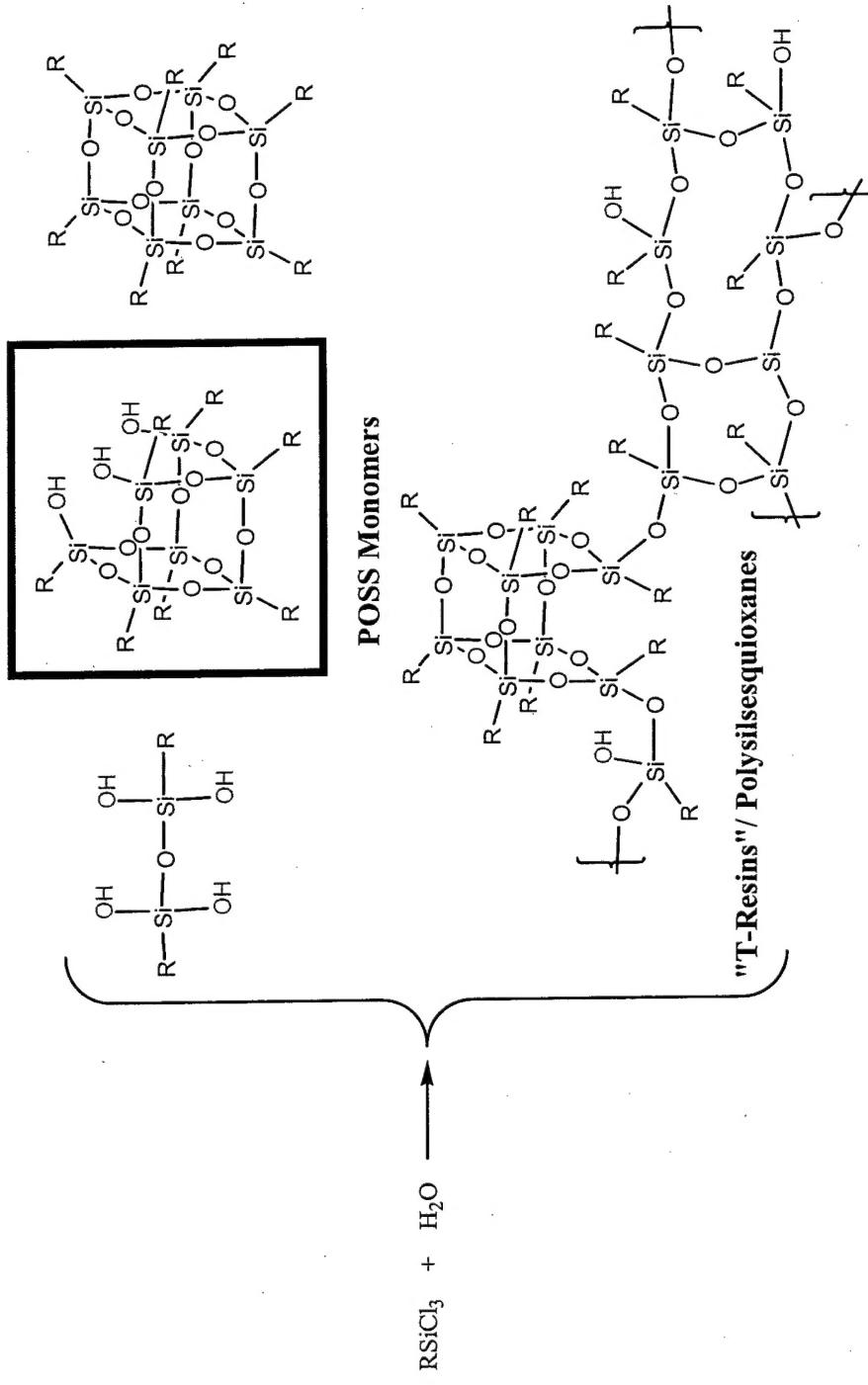


**Cross-linker**      **Pendant Polymer**      **Bead Copolymer**



**POSS Blending**

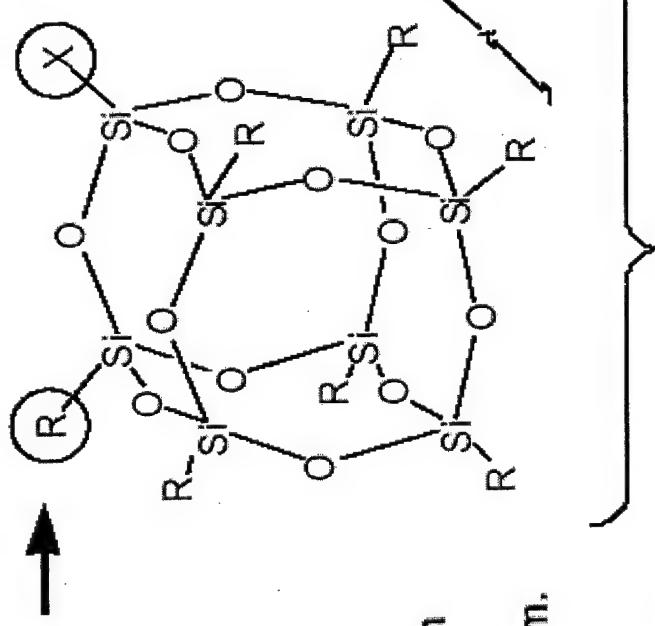
# POSS = Polyhedral Oligomeric Silsesquioxane



- Traditional silsesquioxane chemistry focused on “T-Resins”
- The maximization of property enhancements in polymers results from interaction at the nano-level

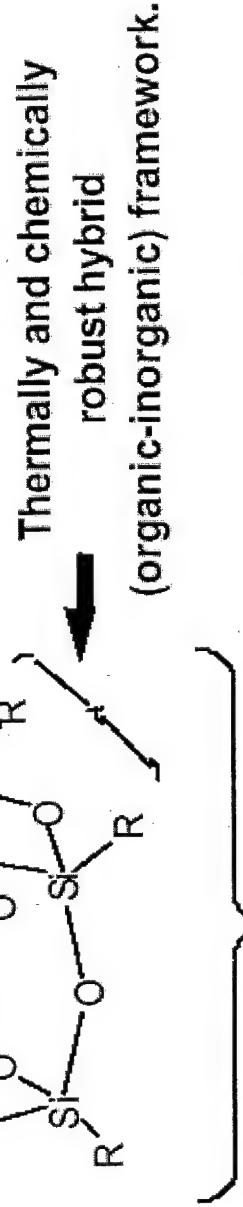
# Anatomy of a POSS Nanostructure

Nonreactive organic (R)  
groups for solubilization  
and compatibilization.



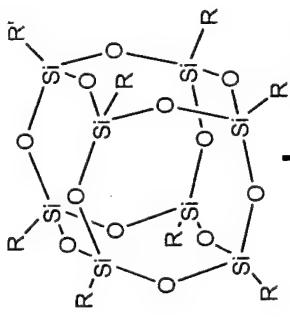
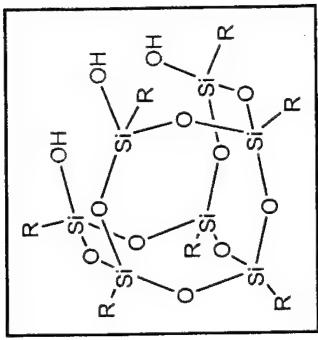
May possess one or more  
functional groups suitable for  
polymerization or grafting.

Nanoscopic in size with an  
Si-Si distance of 0.5 nm  
and a R-R distance of 1.5 nm.



Precise three-dimensional structure for molecular level  
reinforcement of polymer segments and coils.

# POSS Monomer/Polymer Trees



# Hybrid Plastics™

- POSS-rubber\*
- POSS-urethane\*
- POSS-epoxy\*
- POSS-phenolic\*
- POSS-imide\*
- POSS-teflon

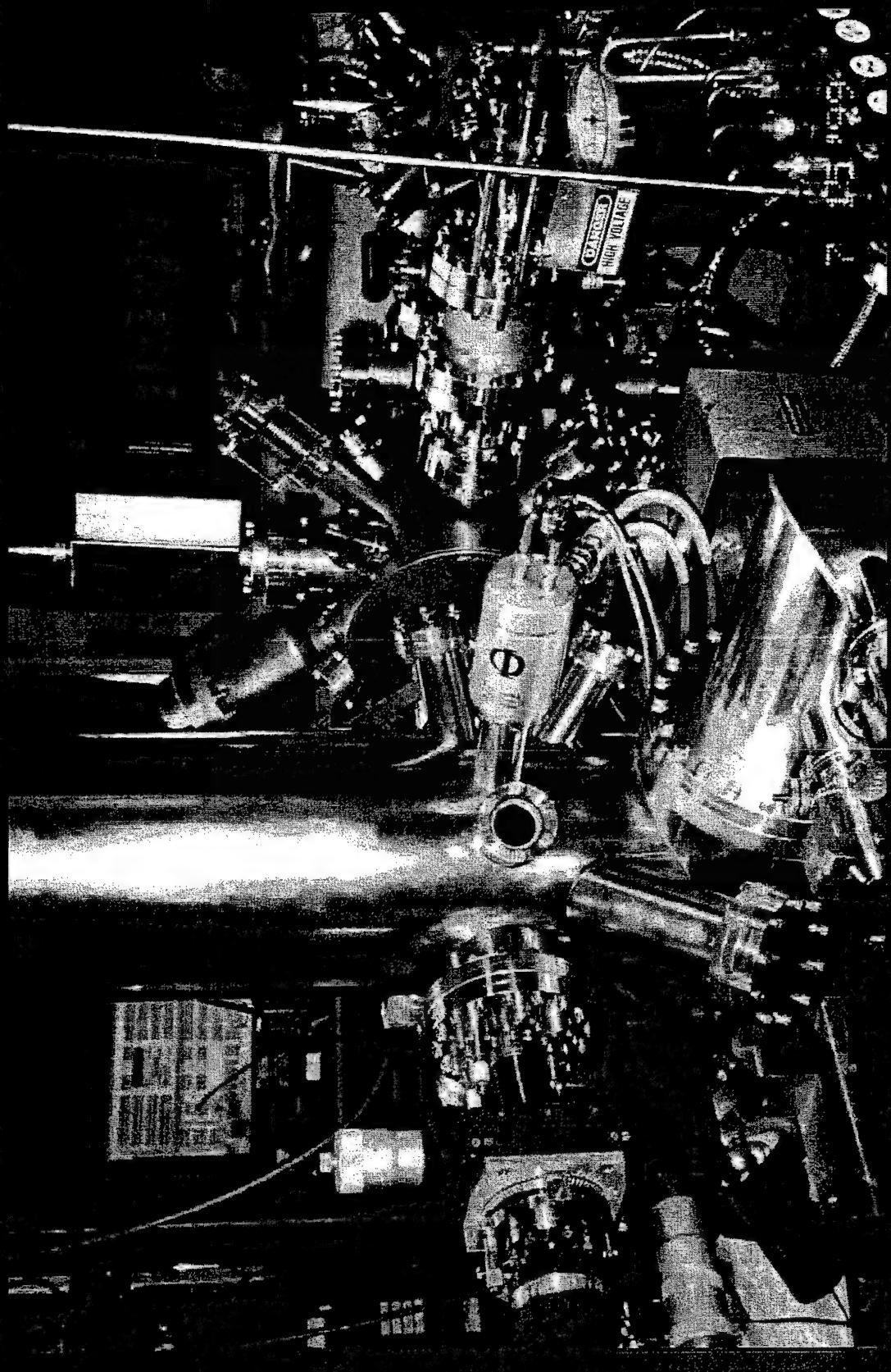
**aryldiacid chlorides**

## monomers and polymers.

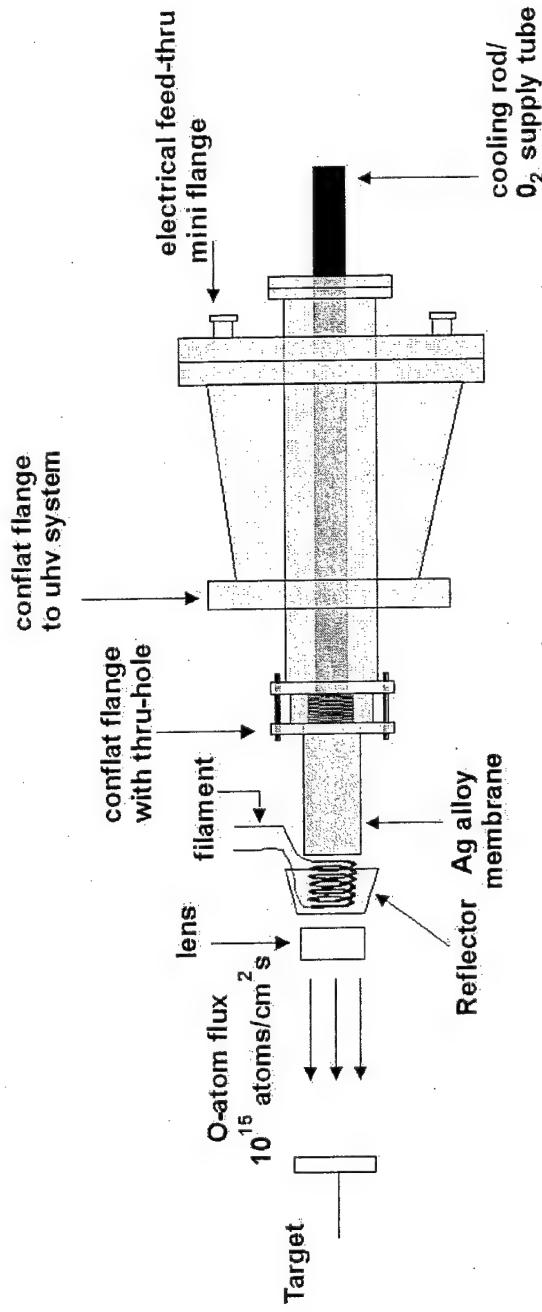
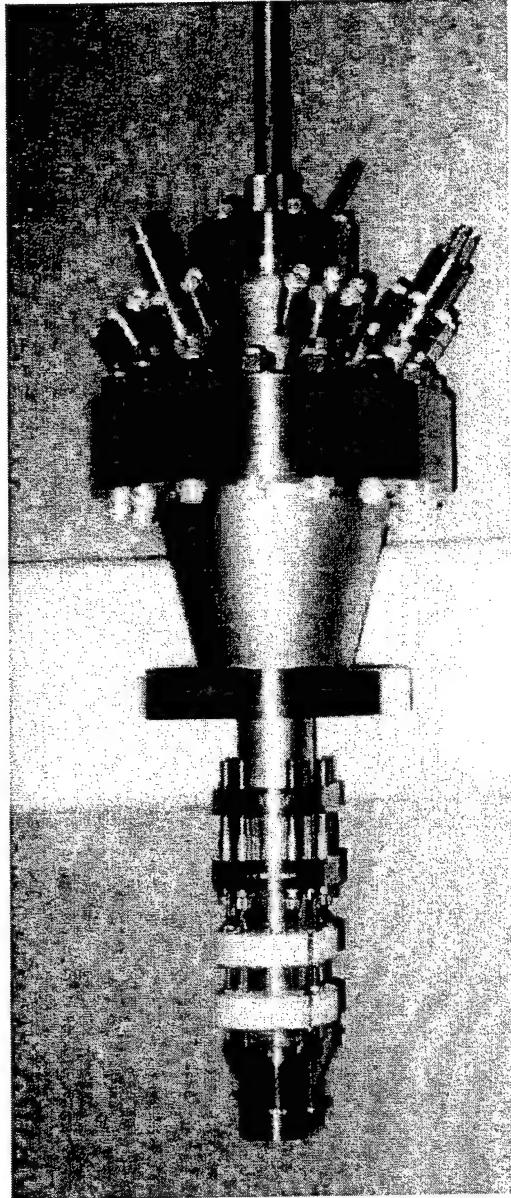
UNIVERSITY OF  
FLORIDA



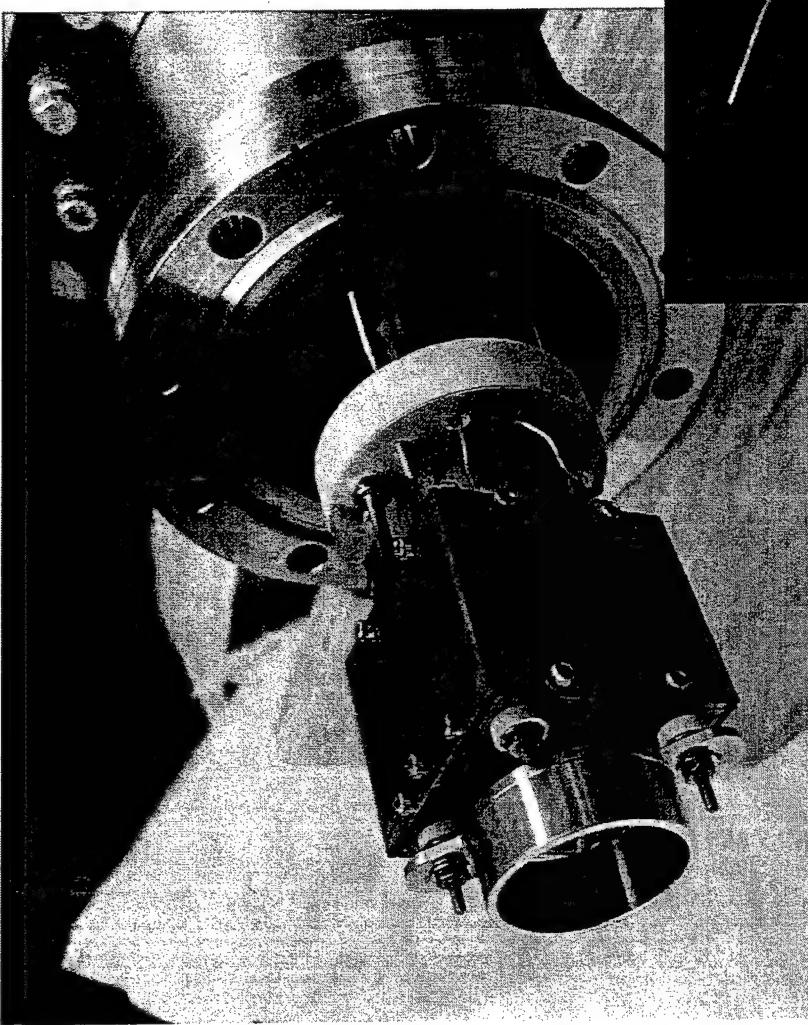
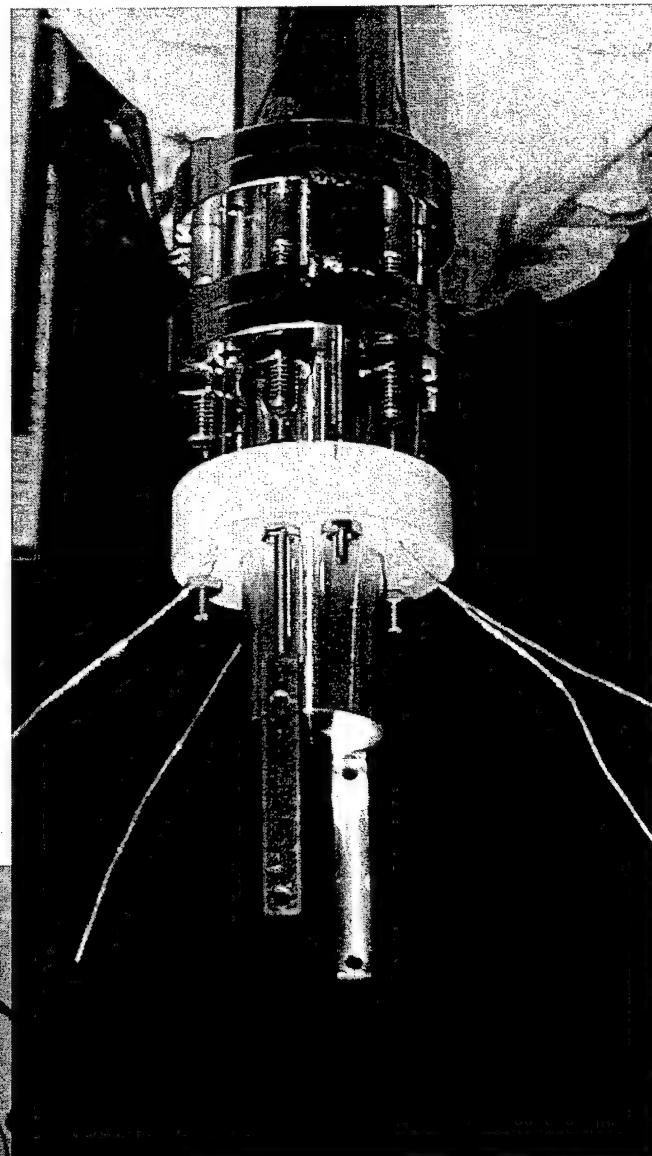
# UF LEO Simulation Facility



# Oxygen Atom Source

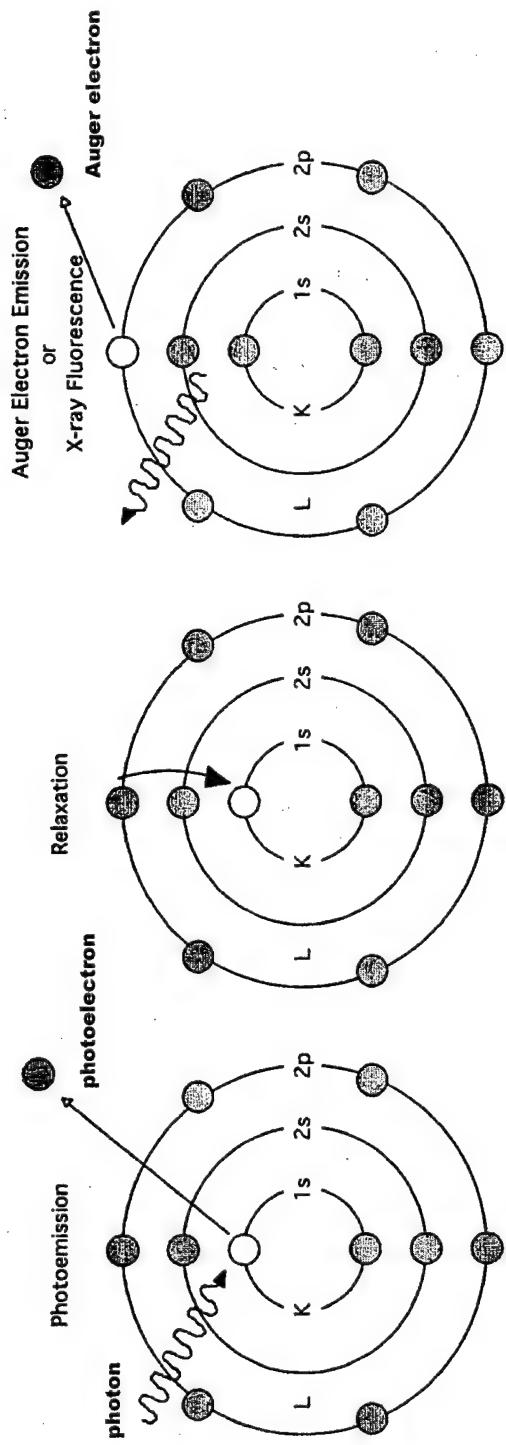


Improved reflector/lens assembly

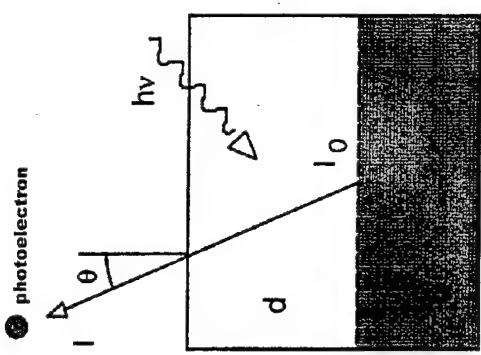
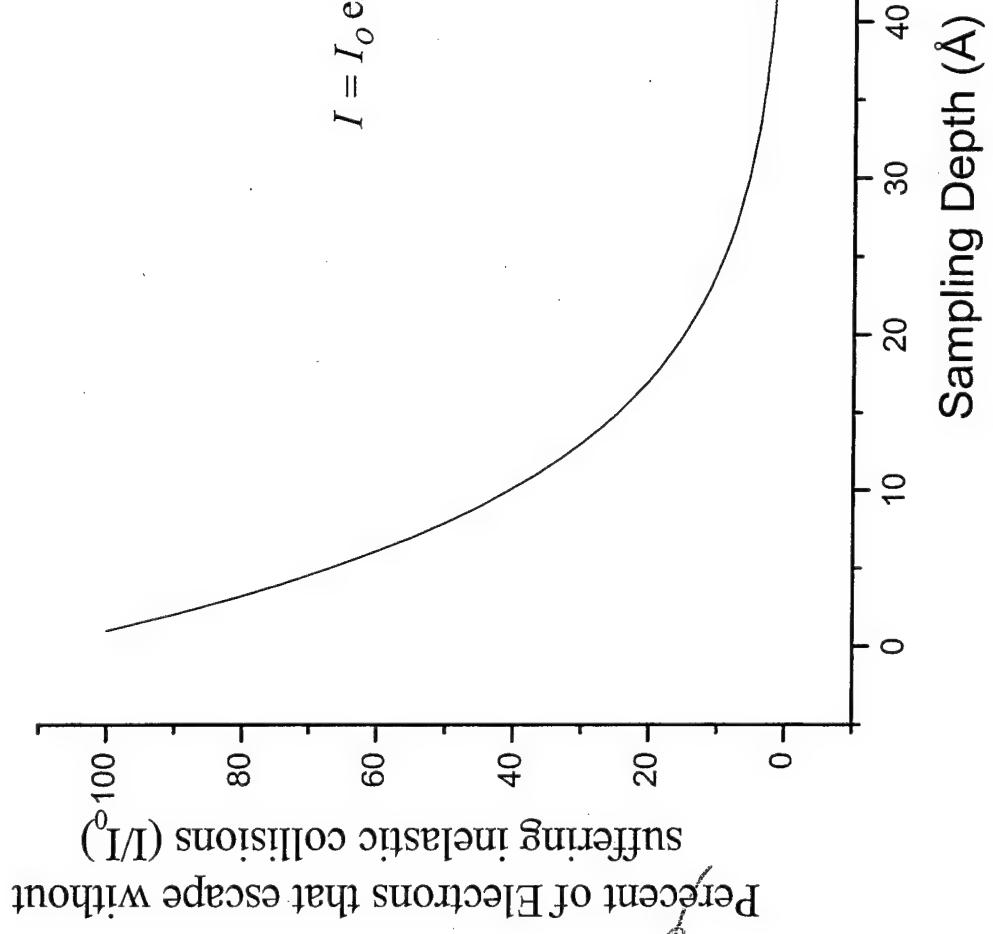


Reinforced membrane assembly

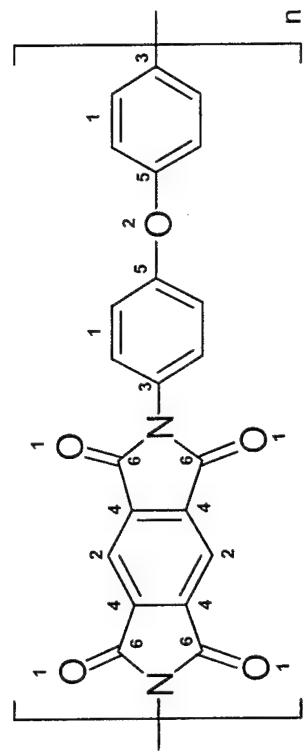
# Photoemission process occurring during XPS



## Sampling Depth of Photoelectron



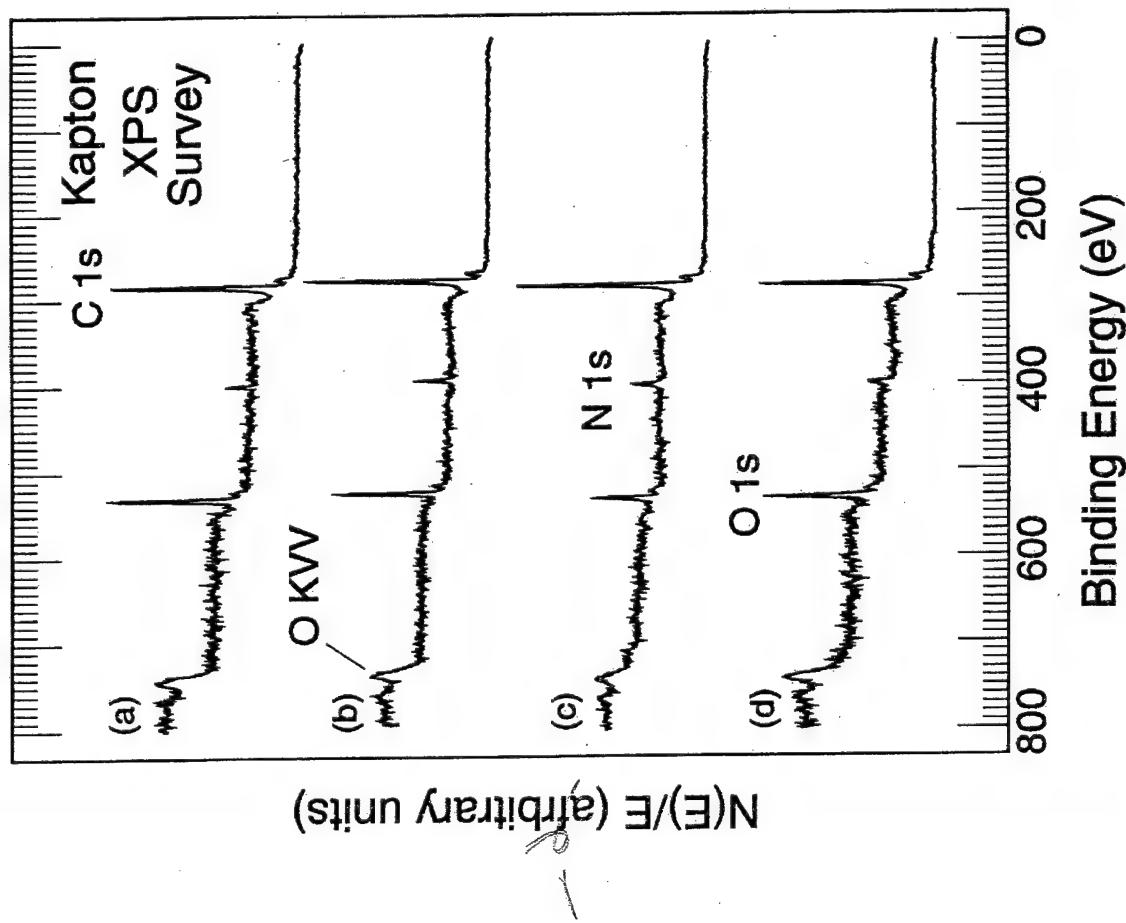
## Kapton



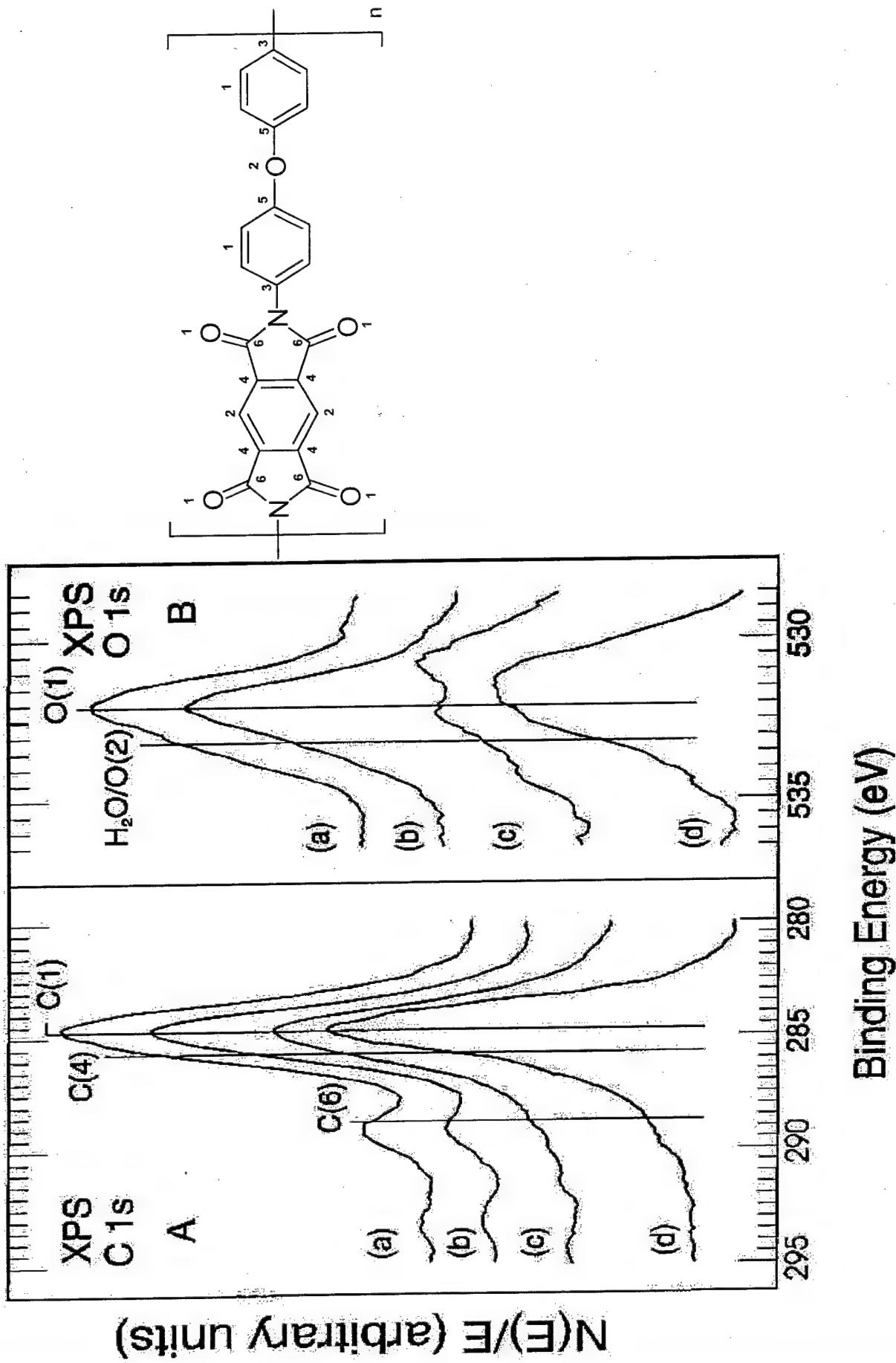
Composition, at %

Sample Treatment	O	C	N
As entered	18.1	77.7	4.2
2.0 hr	14.4	78.4	7.2
24.6 hr	9.2	83.2	7.8
3 hr in air	17.9	78.2	3.9

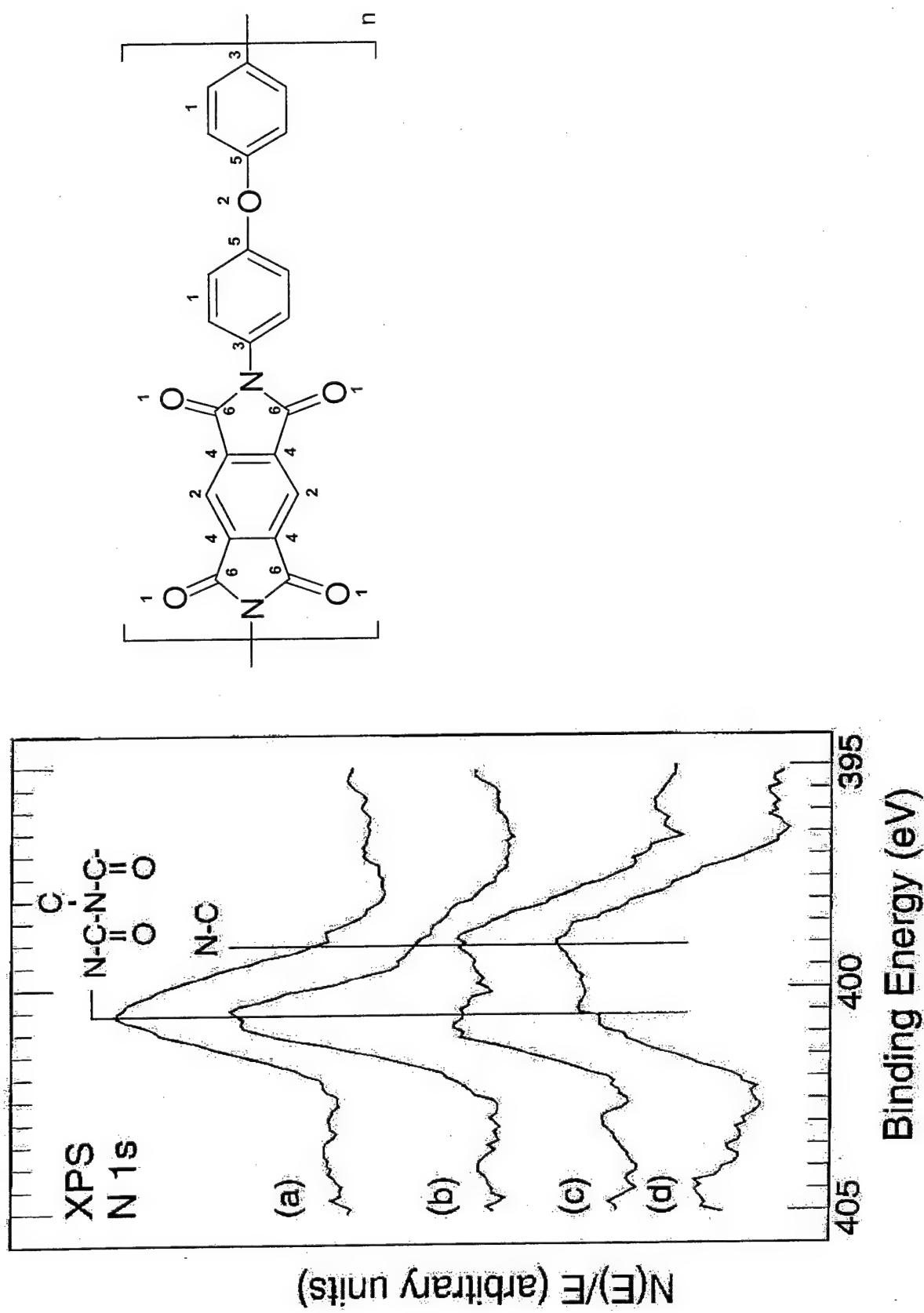
Grossman, E.; Wolan, J.T.; Mount, C.K.; Hofsund, G.B.; J. Spacecraft and Rockets, 36, No. 1, 75-78



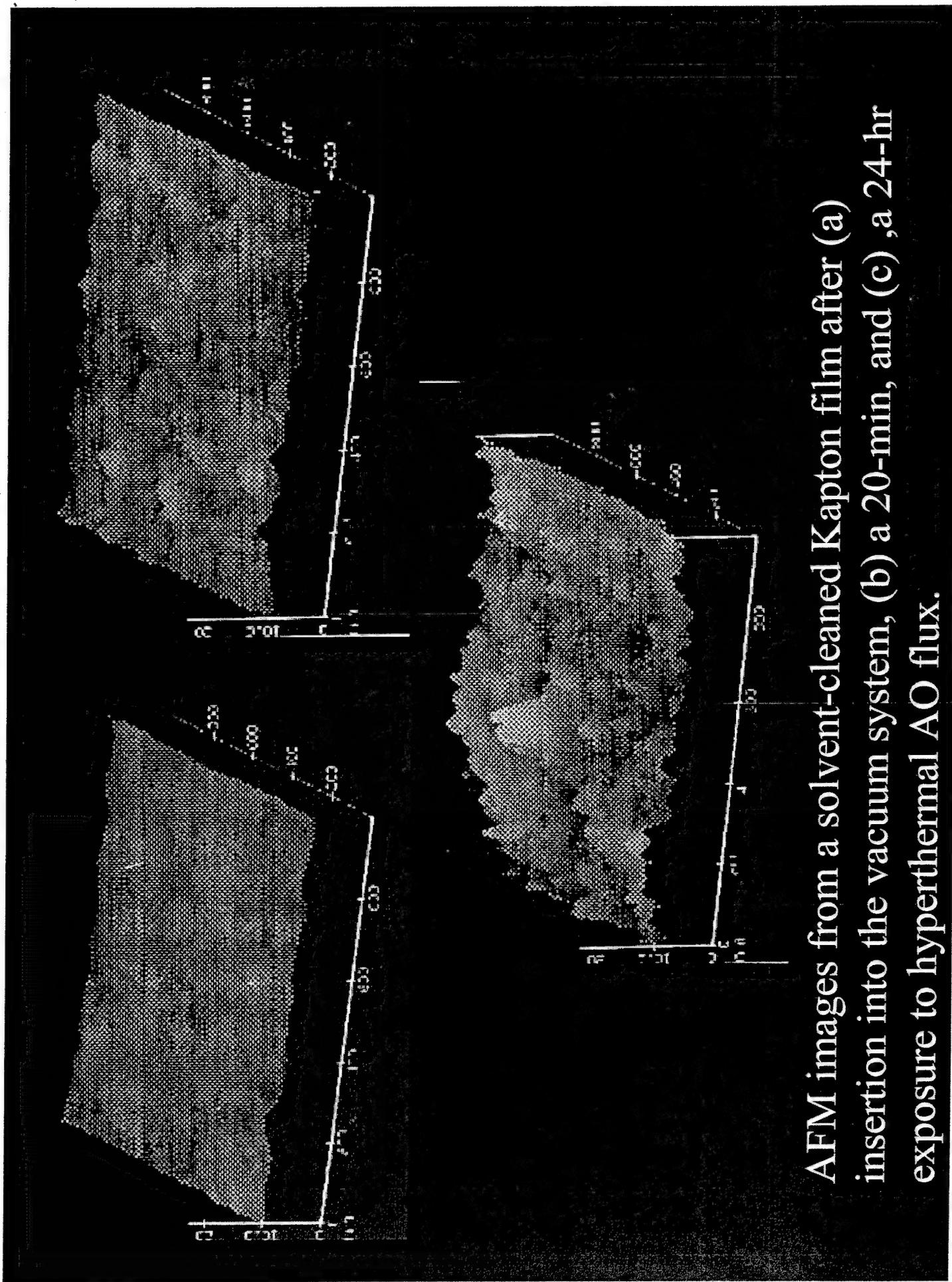
XPS survey spectra obtained from a solvent-cleaned, Kapton film after (a) insertion into the vacuum system, (b) a 20-min, and (C) a 24-h exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (d) a 3-hr air exposure following the 24-hr exposure.



High Resolution C 1s and O 1s spectra obtained from a solvent-cleaned, Kapton film after (a) insertion into the vacuum system, (b) a 20-min, and (C) a 24-h exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (d) a 3-hr air exposure following the 24-hr exposure.

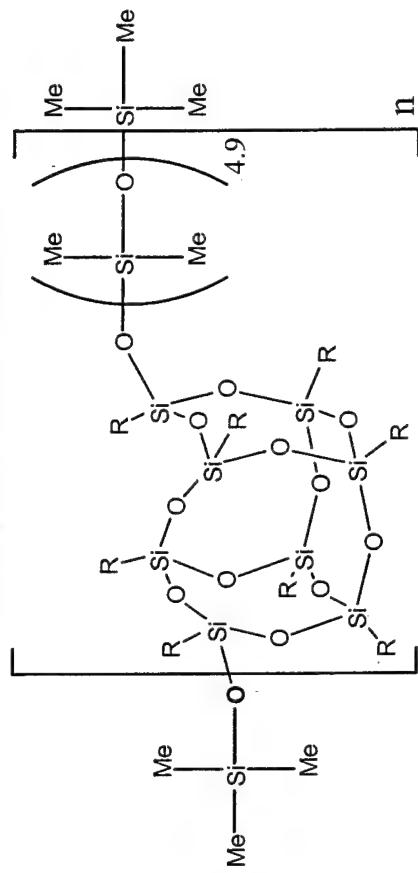


High Resolution N 1s spectra obtained from a solvent-cleaned, Kapton film after (a) insertion into the vacuum system, (b) a 20-min, and (C) a 24-h exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (d) a 3-hr air exposure following the 24-hr exposure.



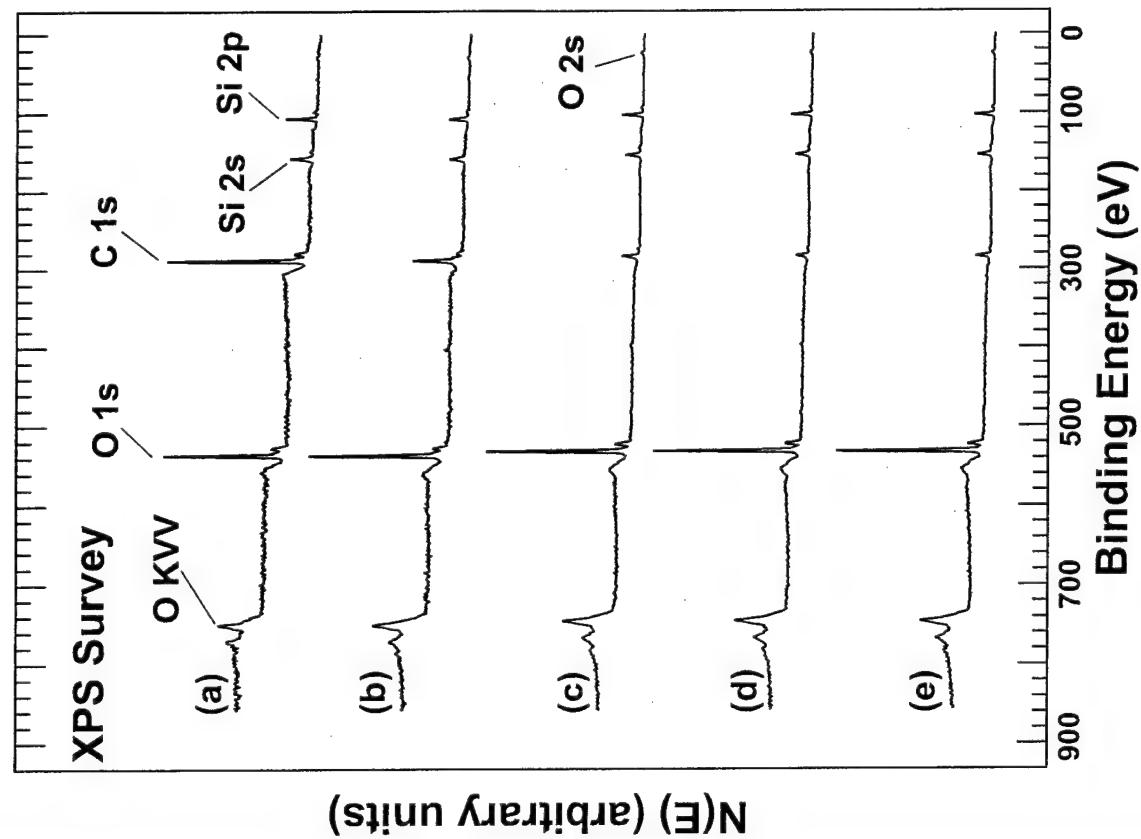
AFM images from a solvent-cleaned Kapton film after (a) insertion into the vacuum system, (b) a 20-min, and (c), a 24-hr exposure to hyperthermal AO flux.

## POSS Siloxane



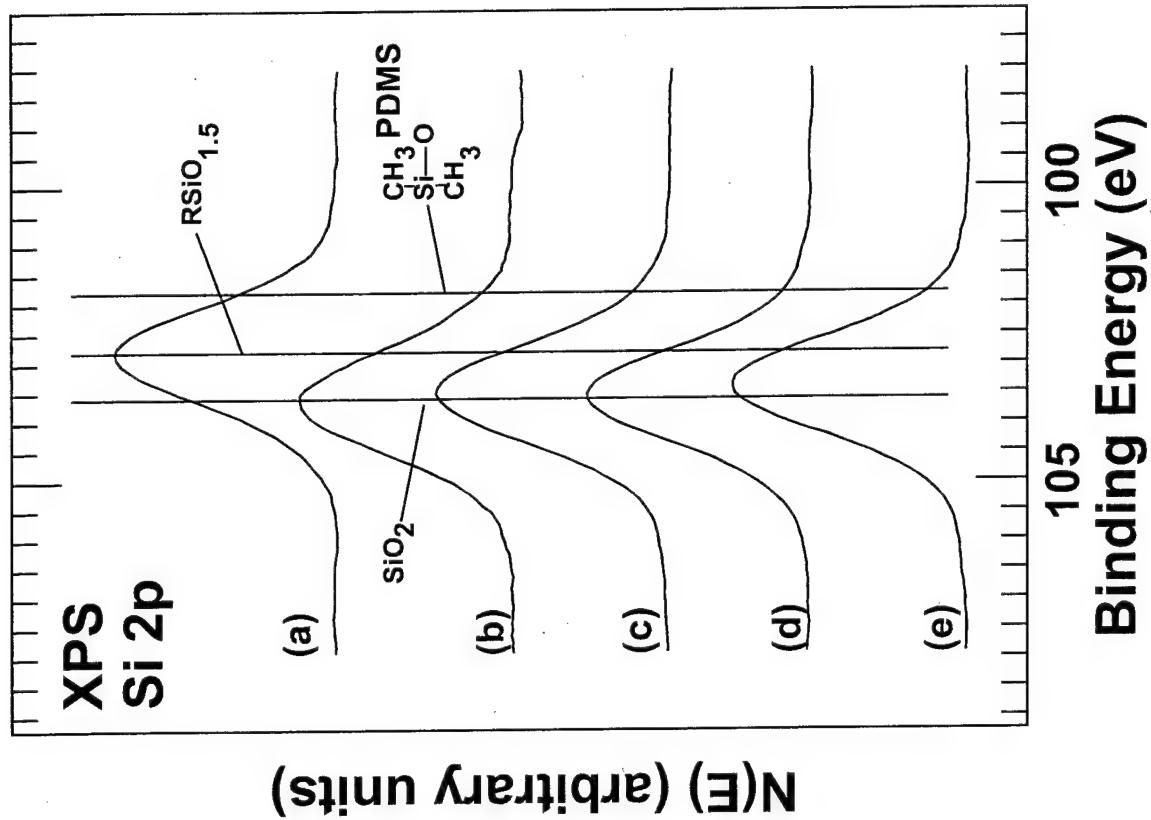
Composition, at %

Sample Treatment	O	C	Si
As entered	18.5	65.0	16.6
2.0 hr	33.8	48.4	17.8
24.6 hr	49.1	22.1	28.8
63.0 hr	55.7	16.3	28.0
4.8 hr air	52.8	19.5	27.7



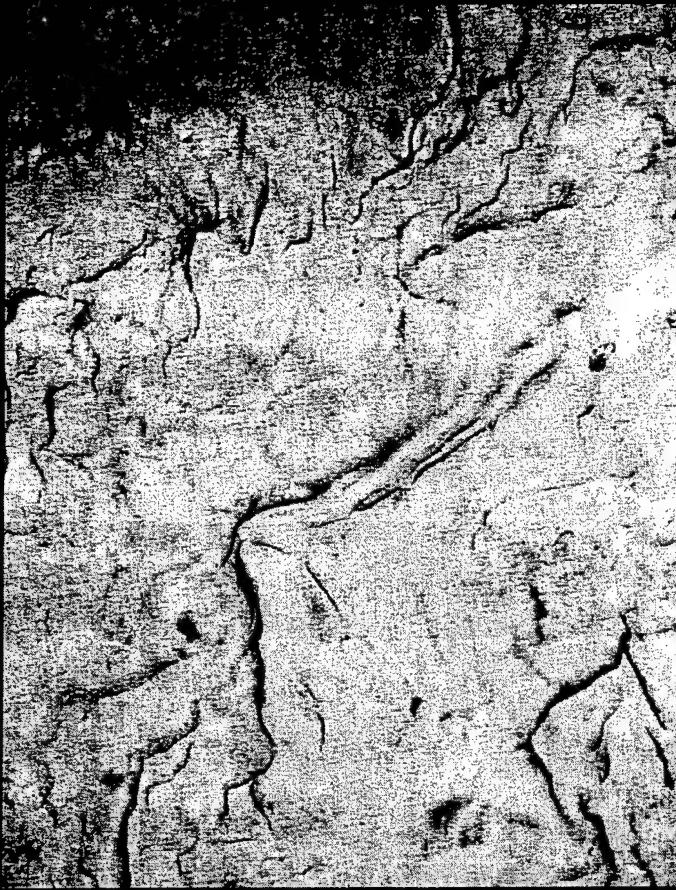
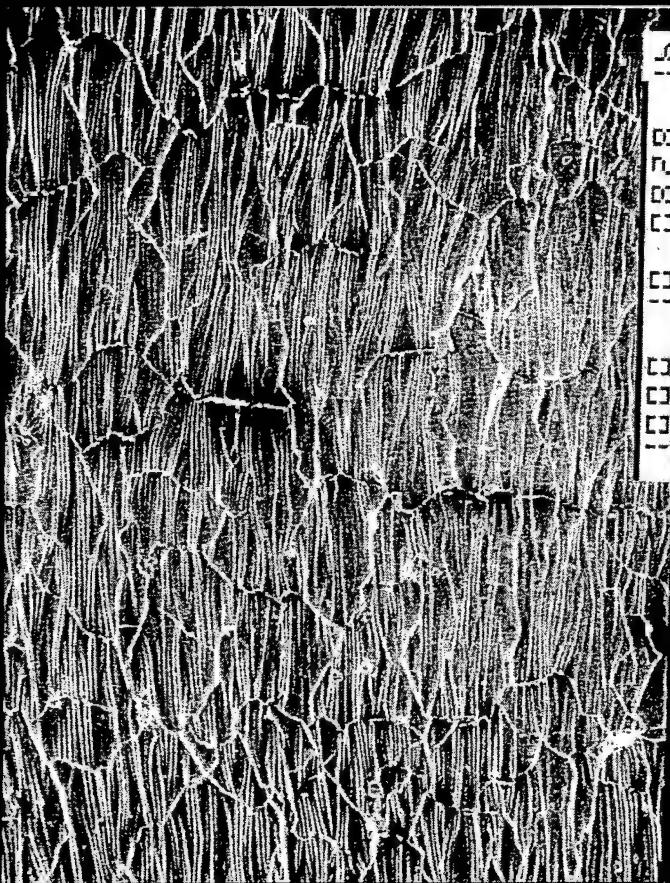
Gonzalez, R. I., Phillips, S. H., Hoflund, G. B., *J. of Spacecraft and Rockets*, Vol 37, No. 4, 2000, pp. 463-467.

XPS survey spectra obtained from a solvent-cleaned, POSS-PDMS film (a) after insertion into the vacuum system, (b), after a 2-hr (c) 24.6-hr and (d) 63-hr exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (e) 4.75-hr air exposure following the 63-hr AO exposure.



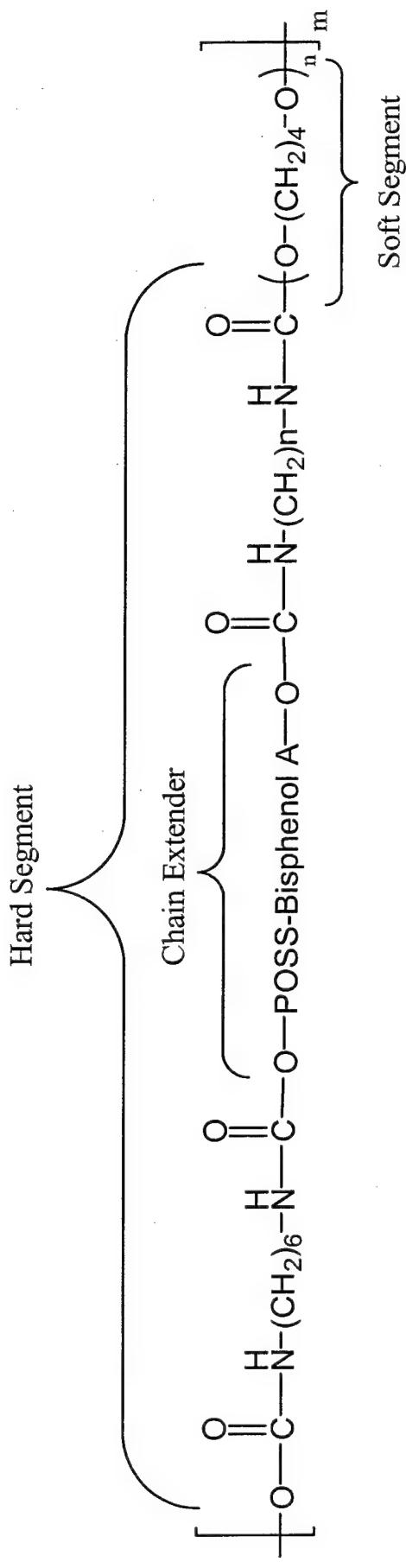
High Resolution Si 2p spectra obtained from a solvent-cleaned, POSS-PDMS film (a) after insertion into the vacuum system, (b), after a 2-hr (c) 24.6-hr and (d) 63-hr exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (e) 4.75-hr air exposure following the 63-hr AO exposure.

# SEM of POSS-Siloxane Copolymer



SEM of (a) unexposed and (b) exposed POSS-siloxane copolymer surfaces. The simulated LEO exposure “healed” the micro-cracks present initially in the POSS-siloxane sample.

# Properties of POSS-Urethanes



Polymer	Melt Transition °C	T <sub>dec</sub> °C	Char Yield %	Appearance
0% POSS*	-49, 22	274 °C	1.4	Viscous Fluid
29% POSS*	201	372 °C	16.0	Solid Rubber
43% POSS*	260, 320	344 °C	20.0	Solid Rubber

# Moduli for POSS BPA and TMP Urethanes

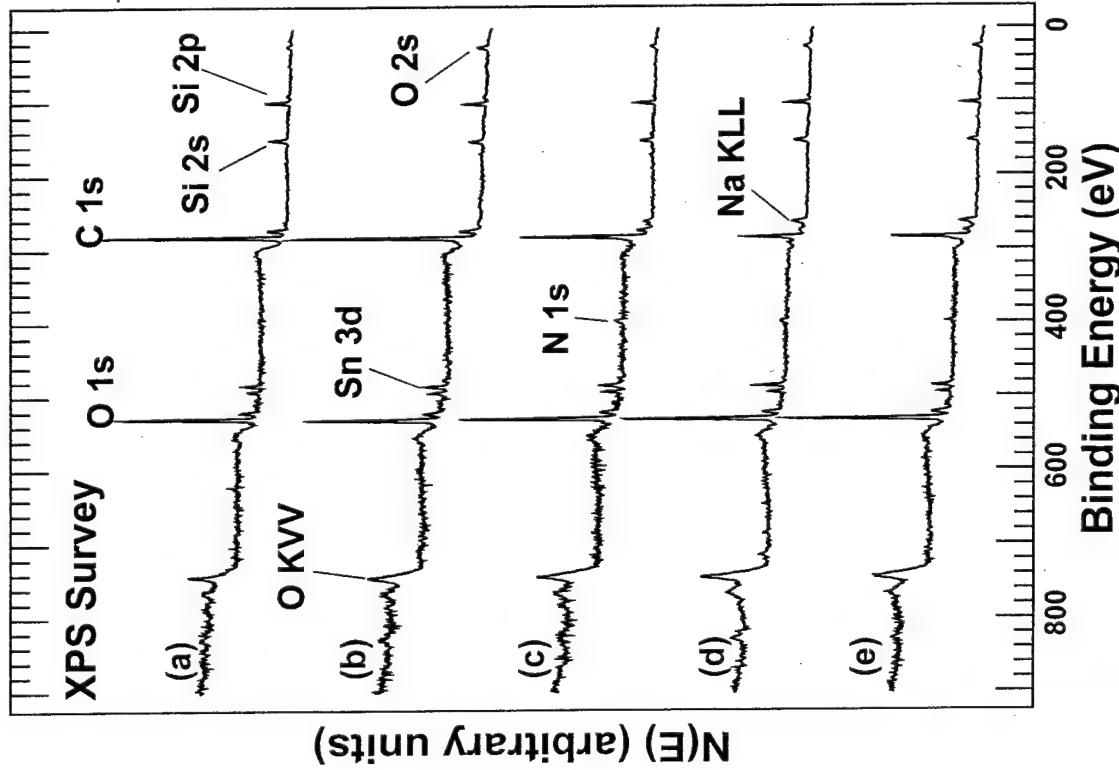
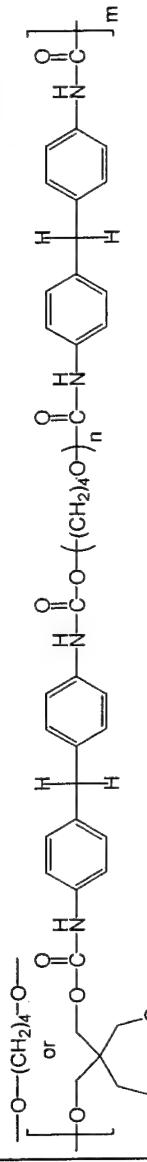


0 wt.% POSS	0.04 MPa	0 wt.% POSS	0.01 MPa
17 wt.% POSS	0.42 MPa	17 wt.% POSS	0.14 MPa
34 wt.% POSS	1.06 MPa	34 wt.% POSS	0.39 MPa

Samples were stretched to 400% elongation

All polymers were prepared through melt polymerization

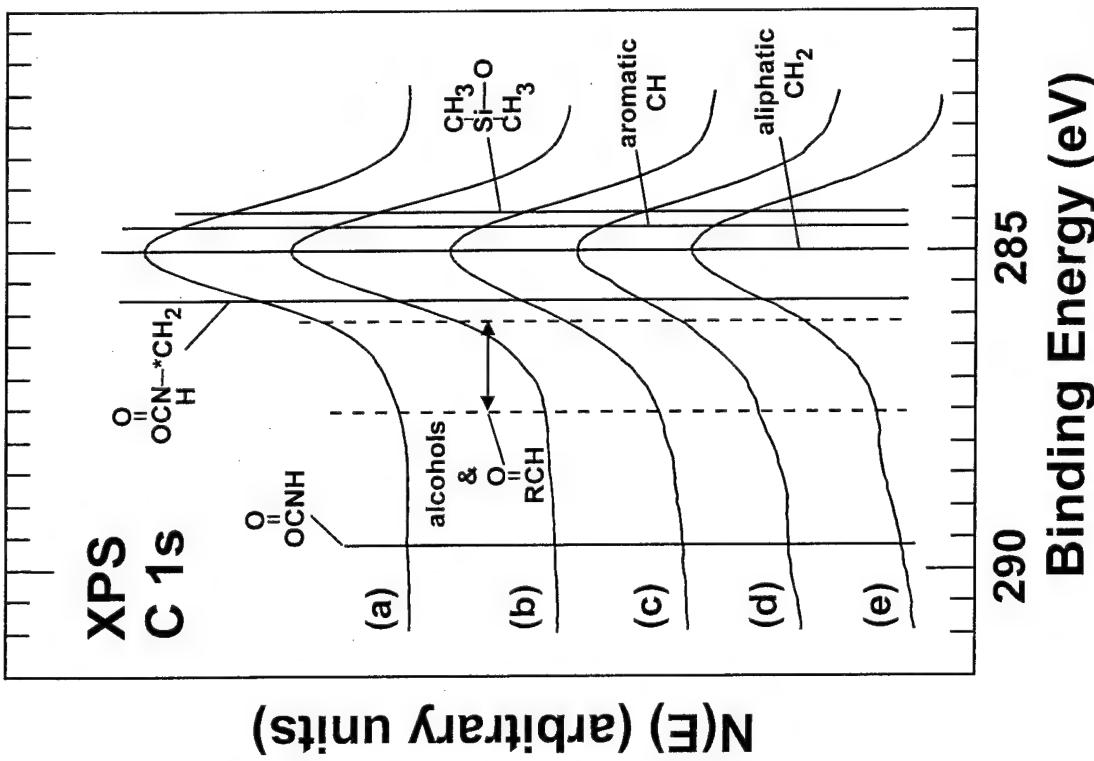
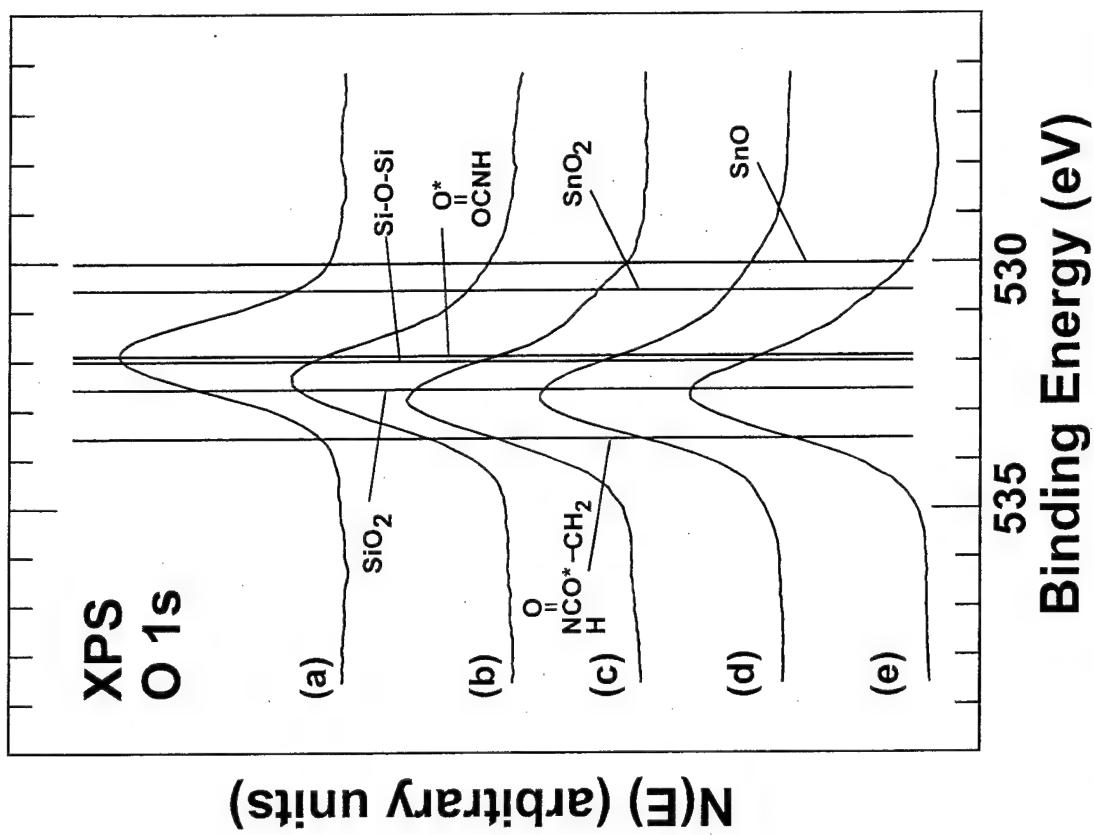
60 wt % POSS-Polyurethane



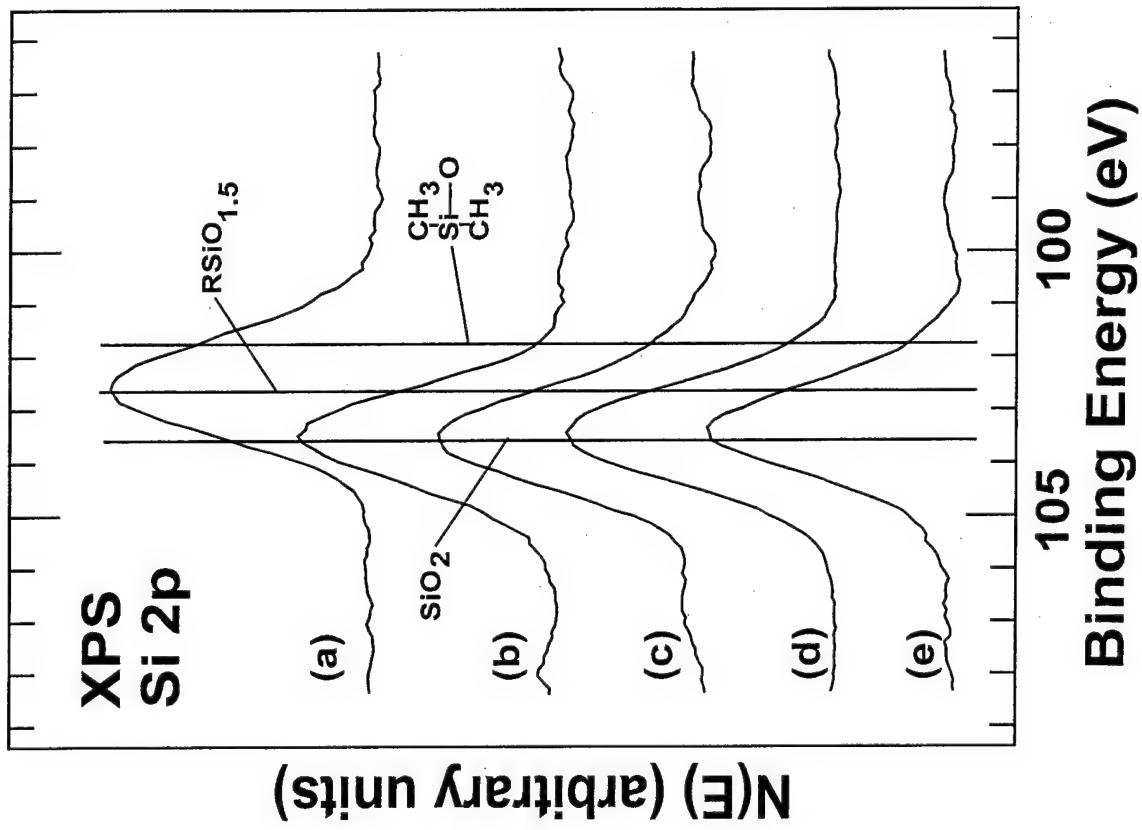
Sample Treatment	O	C	Si	Sn	Na	N
As entered	18.2	70.1	11.3	0.4	-	-
2.0-hr	17.5	70.2	11.2	0.7	0.4	-
24.0-hr	23.7	58.2	13.2	0.9	1.4	2.6
63.0-hr	35.3	37.3	20.4	1.3	3.0	2.7
3.3-h air	31.6	48.5	14.6	1.0	2.7	1.6

Phillips, S. H., Hoflund, G. B., Gonzalez, R. I., 45th International SAMPE Symposium. 2000. Vol. 45, No. 2, pp. 1921-1931.

XPS Survey Spectra from a 60 wt% POSS-PU (a) after insertion into the vacuum system, (b) after a 2-hr (c) 24-hr and (d) 63-hr exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (e) 3.3-hr air exposure following the 63-hr exposure.

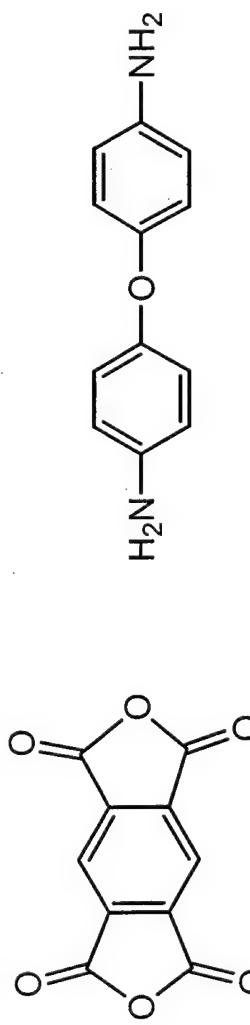


High Resolution C 1s and O 1s spectra from a 60 wt% POSS-PU (a) after insertion into the vacuum system, (b) after a 2-hr (c) 24-hr and (d) 63-hr exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (e) 3.3-hr air exposure following the 63-hr exposure.

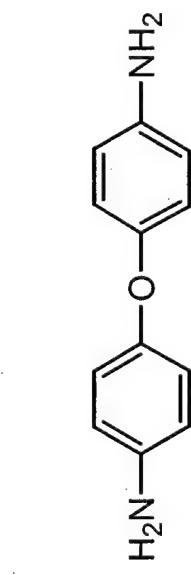


High Resolution Si 2p spectra from a 60 wt% POSS-PU (a) after insertion into the vacuum system, (b) after a 2-hr (c) 24-hr and (d) 63-hr exposure to the hyperthermal AO flux, and (e) 3.3-hr air exposure following the 63-hr exposure.

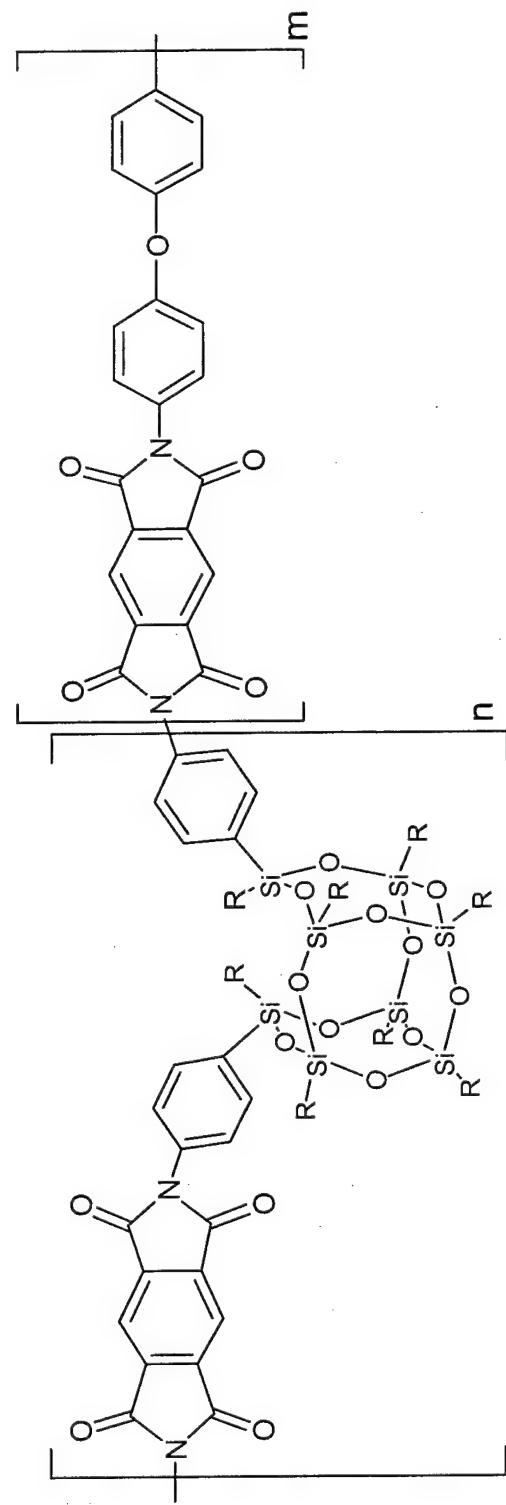
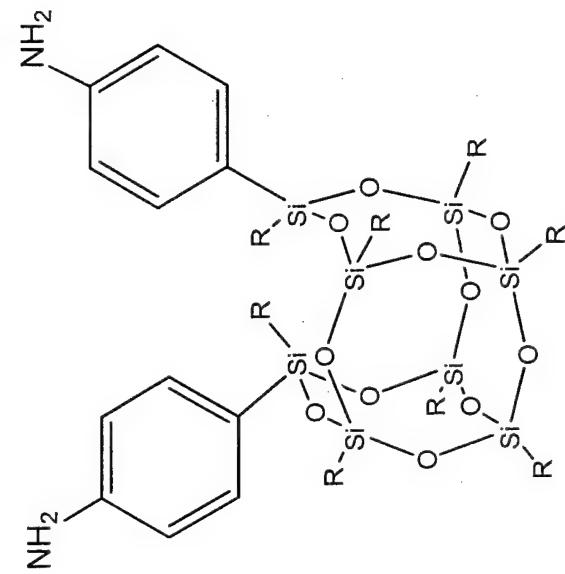
# POSS-Kapton Polyimides

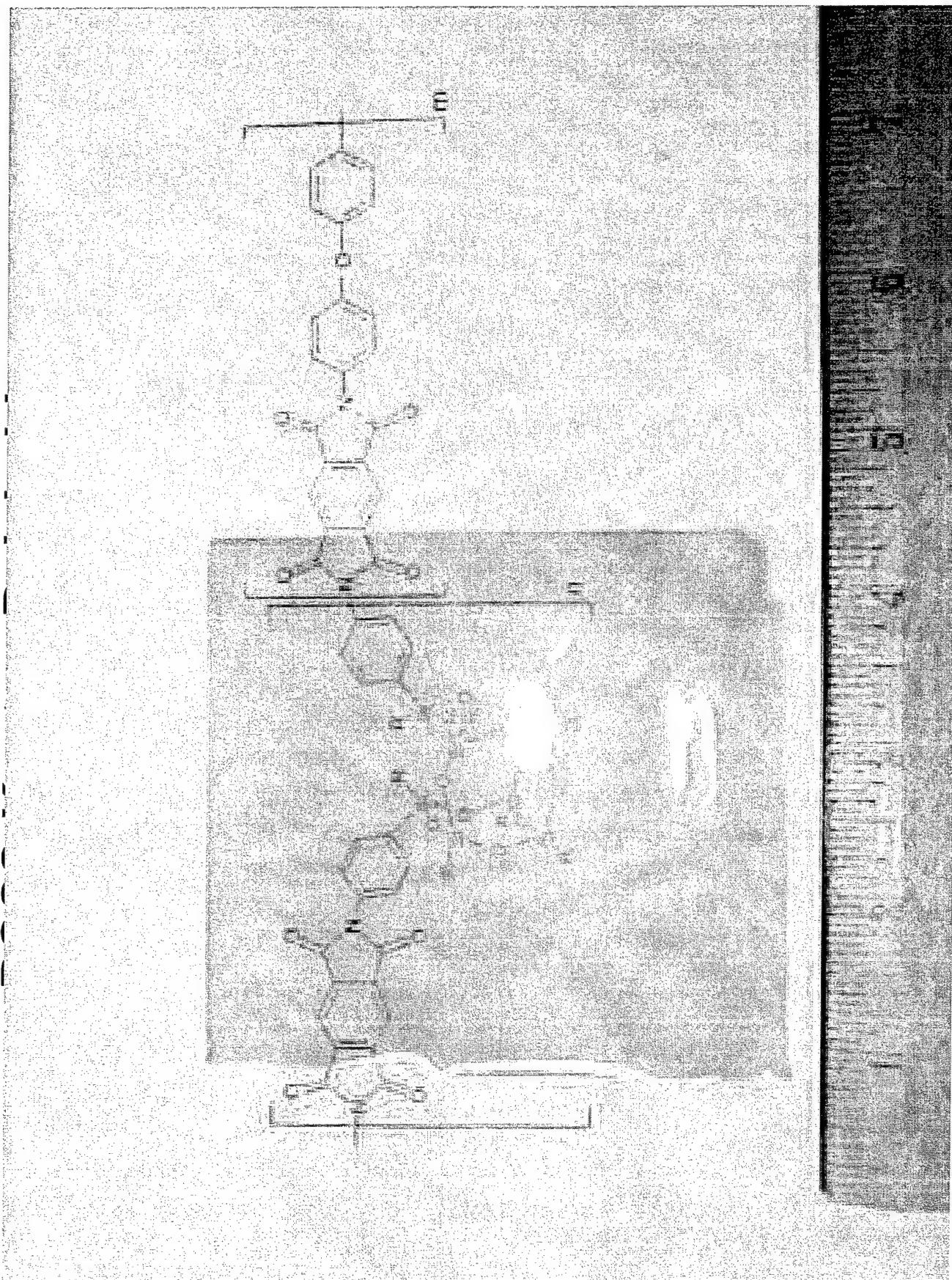


PMDA



ODA







**Table 2. AFRL Kapton Tensile Properties Calculated with the Average Sample Thickness.**

Sample No.	Young's Modulus, ksi	Ultimate Tensile Strength, ksi	Failure Strain, %
<b>Baseline AFRL Kapton without POSS</b>			
Average	348	9.0	4.86
<b>AFRL Kapton doped with 10 wt% POSS</b>			
Average	370	10.8	6.59
<b>AFRL Kapton doped with 20 wt% POSS</b>			
Average	321	7.5	3.89

**Glass Transition Temperatures of POSS-Polyimides**

Measured by DMA

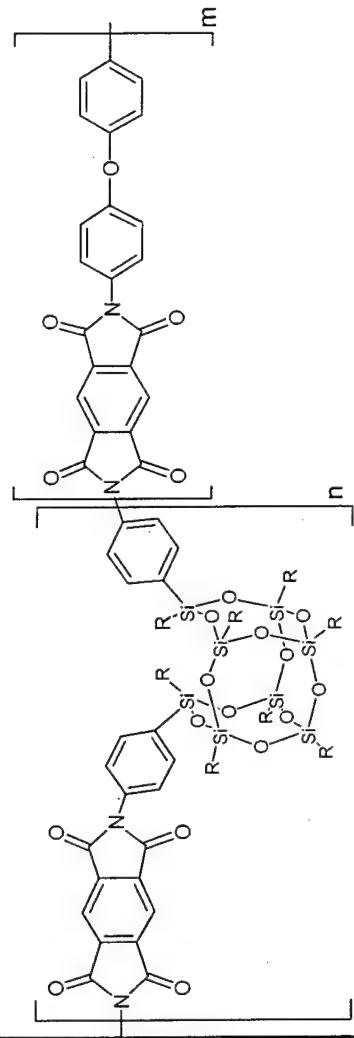
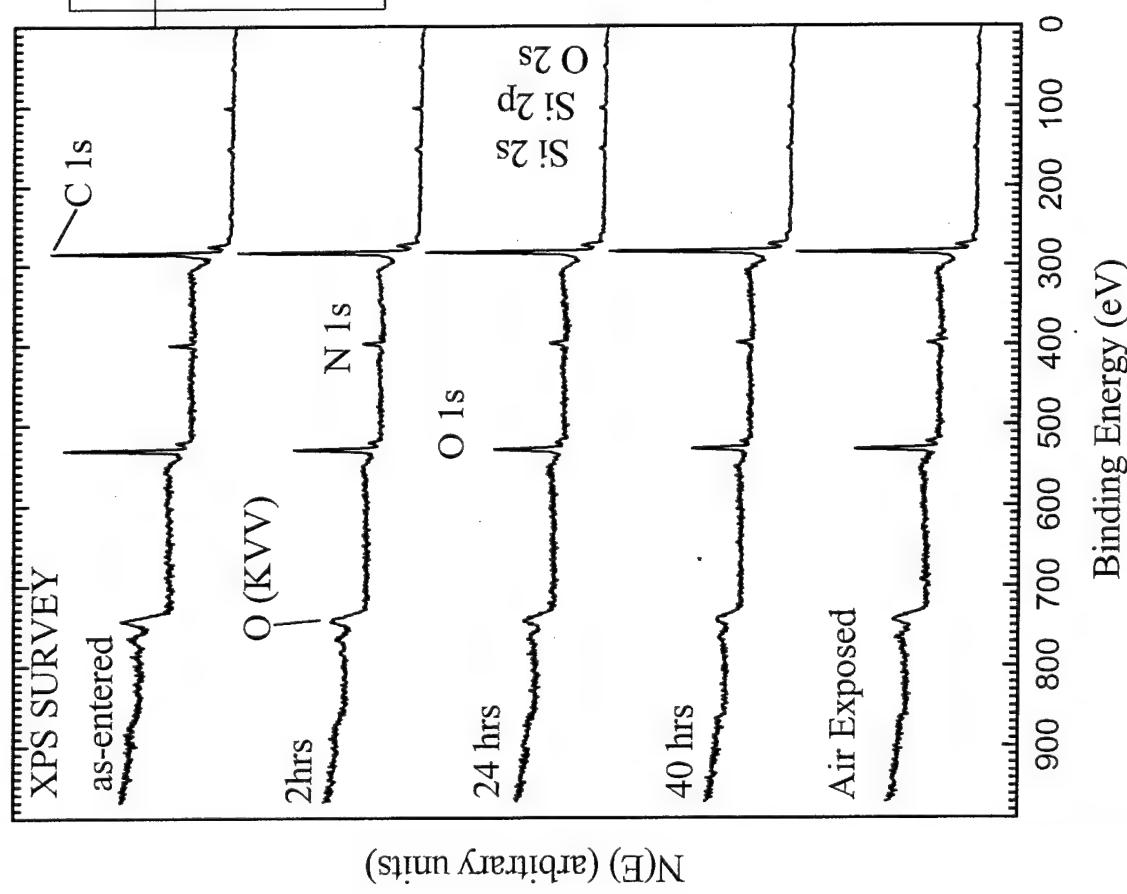
Heating Rate: 10°C per Minute

% POSS	T <sub>g</sub> in Air (°C)	T <sub>g</sub> in Nitrogen (°C)
0	386	389
10	380	381
20	370	373

Note: DuPont claims that the T<sub>g</sub> of Kapton H is in the range of 360 - 410°C, "depending on how it is measured."

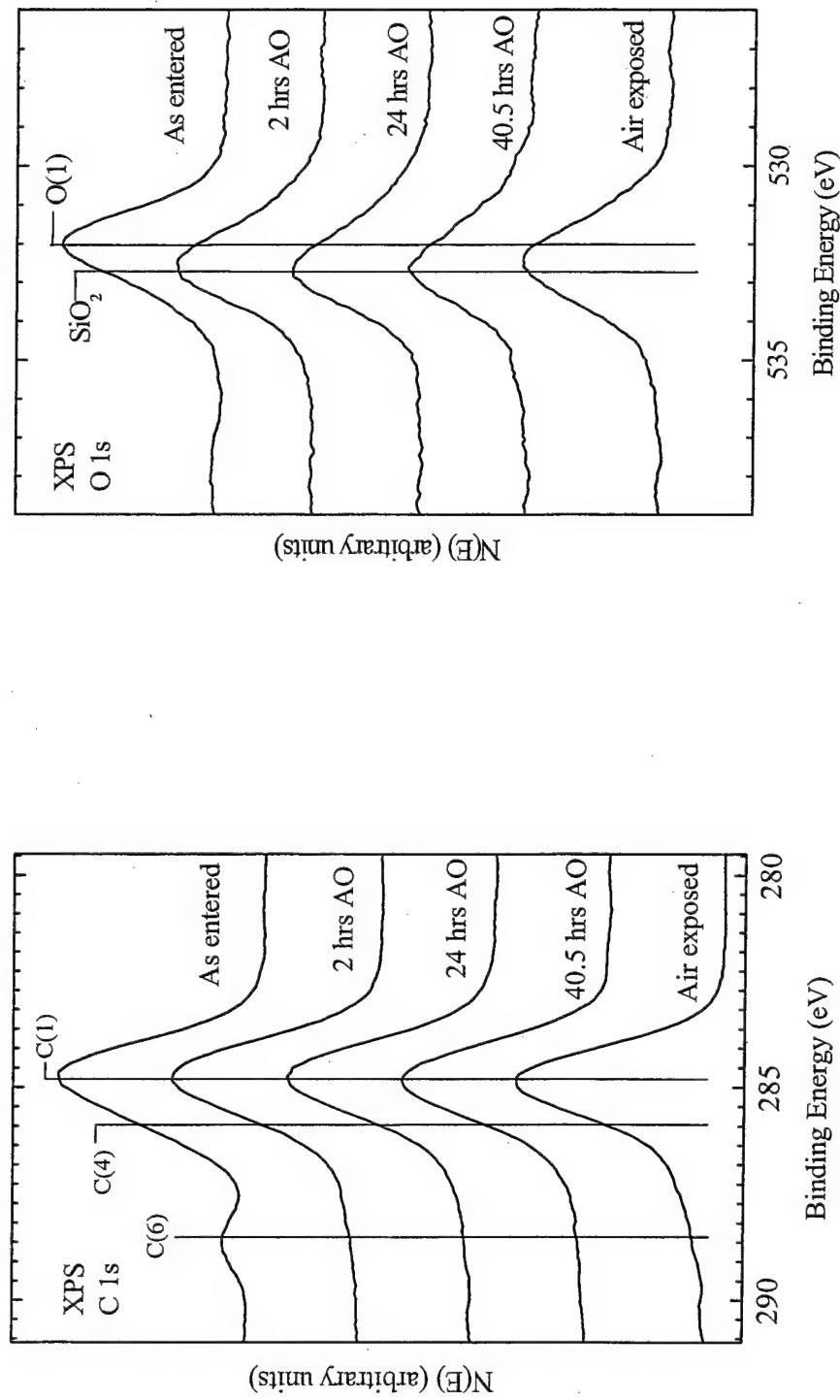
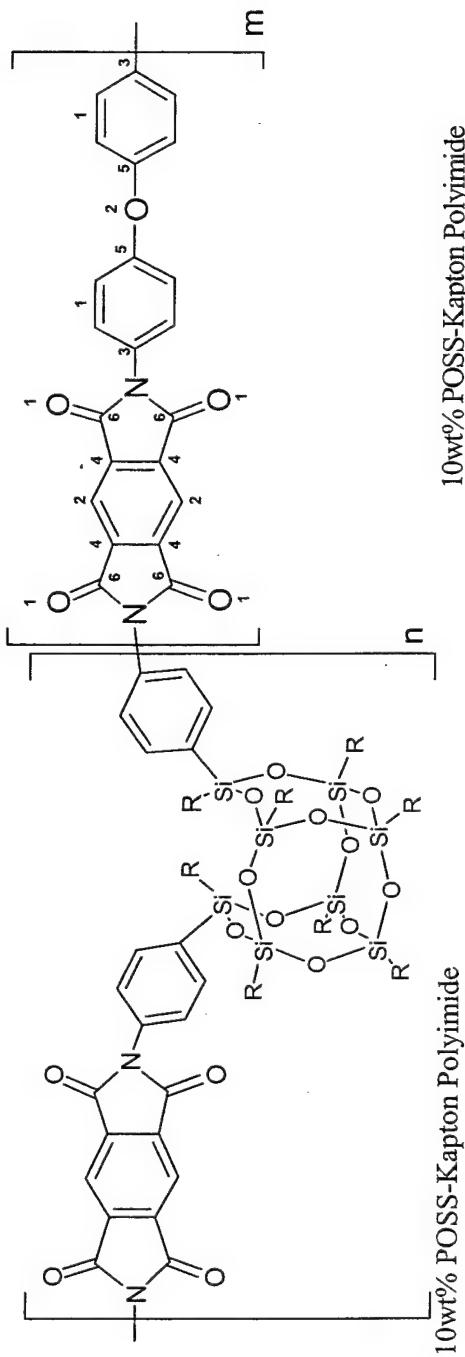


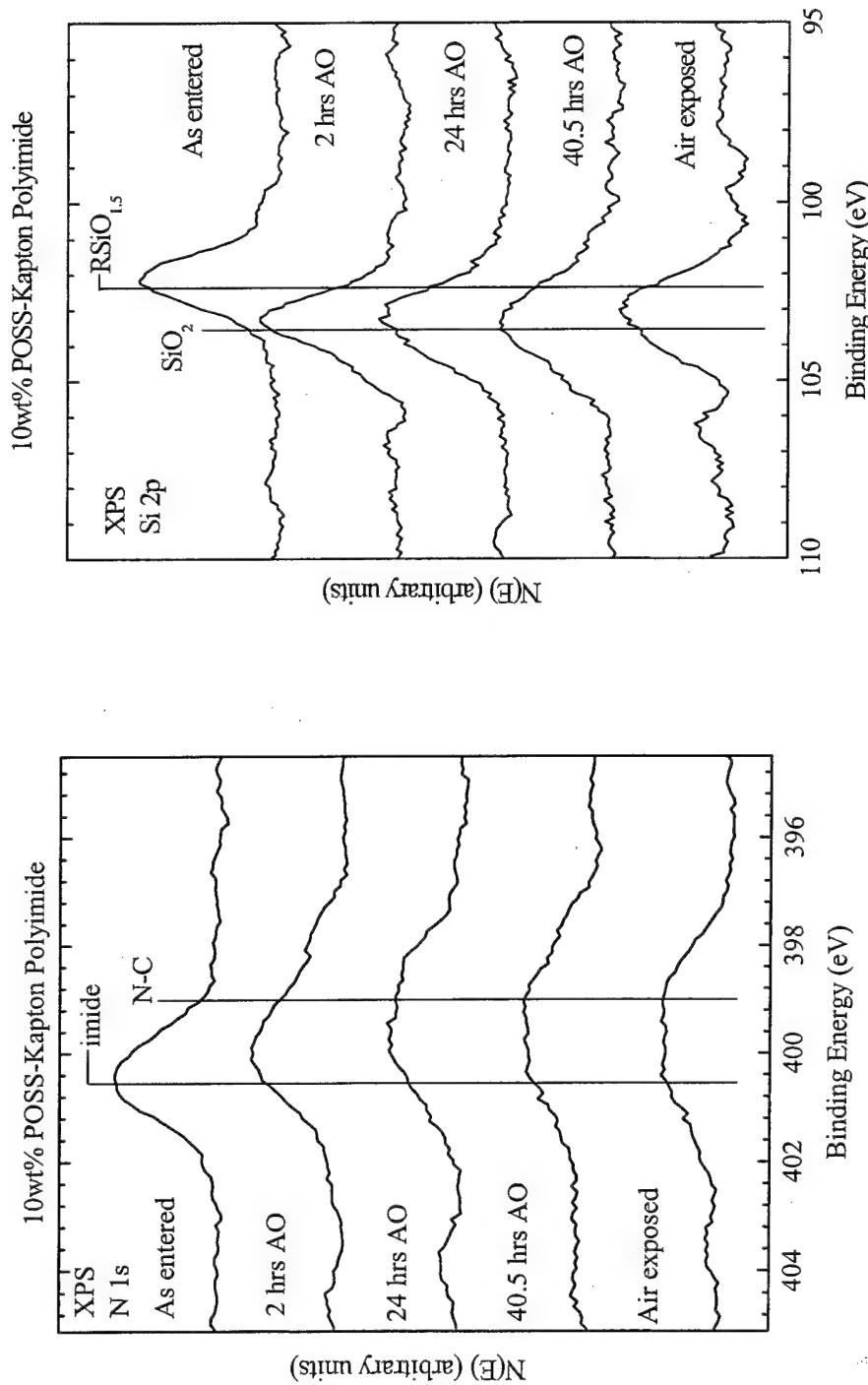
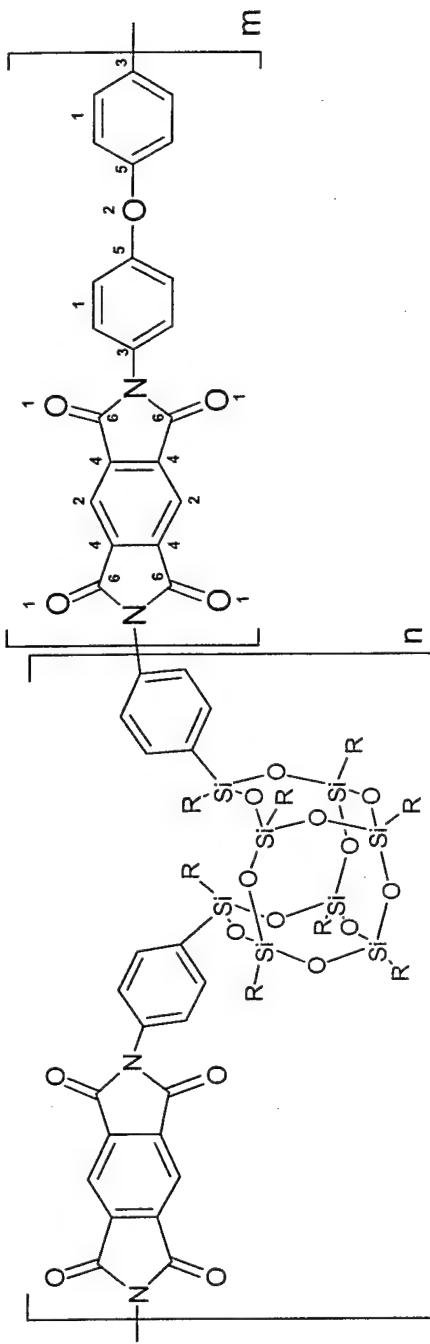
## 10 wt% POSS Kapton



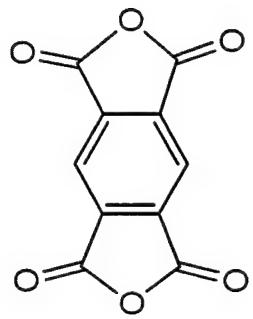
Composition, at %

Sample Treatment	O	C	N	Si	O/Si
As entered	15.9	74.5	4.9	4.6	3.4
2.0-hr	14.3	72.6	8.2	4.9	2.9
24.0-hr	11.1	79.6	4.9	4.4	2.5
40.0-hr	9.1	81.5	5.6	3.7	2.4
Air exposed	13.9	76.8	5.8	3.5	3.9

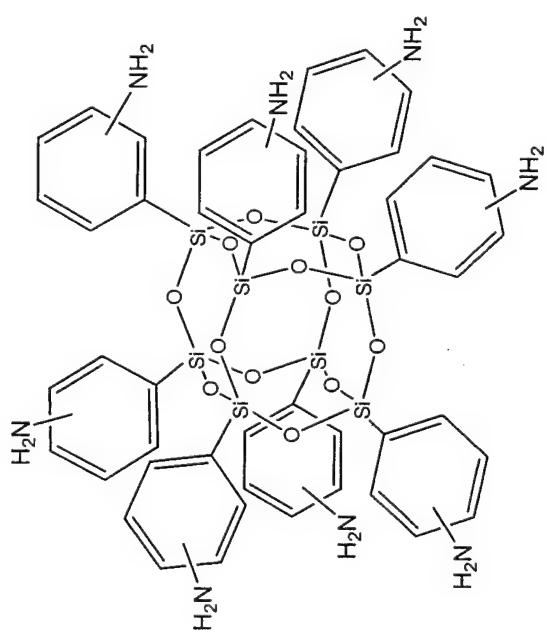




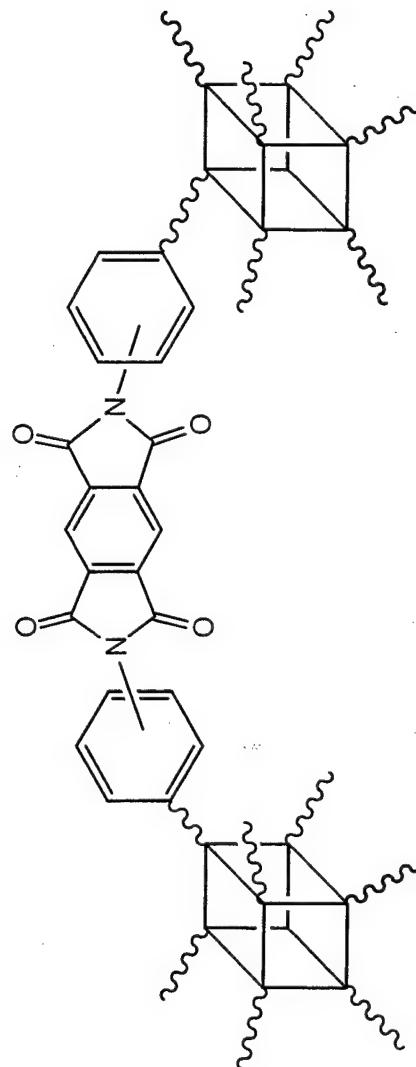
# Octaphenylamino Silsesquioxane Imide Resin



PMDA

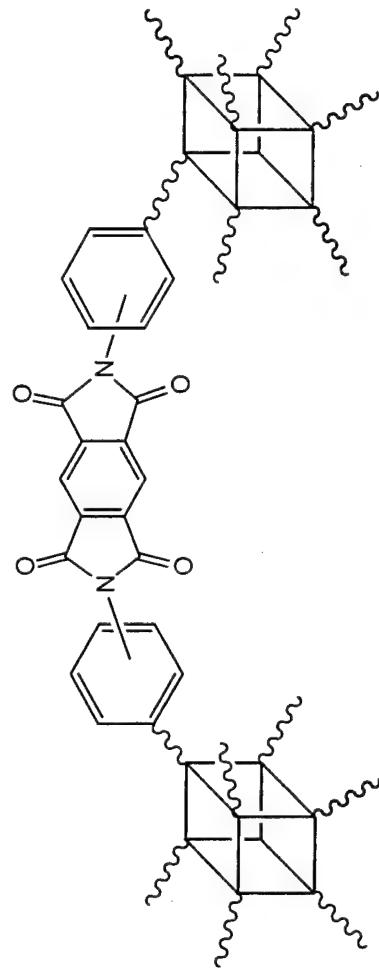
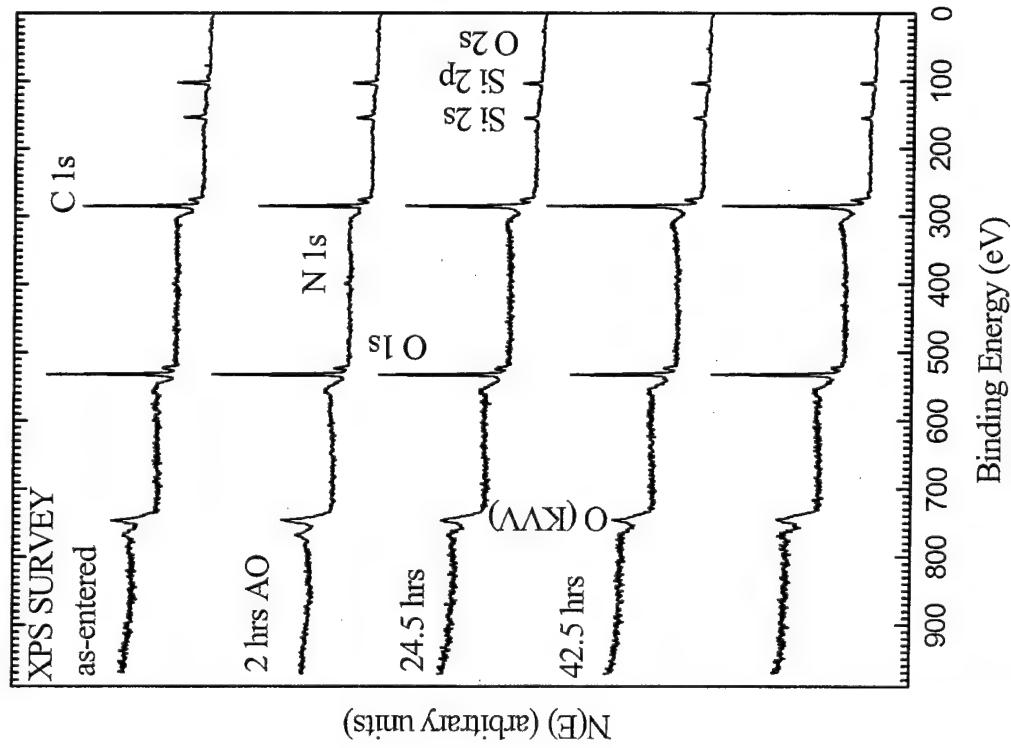


OAPS



## Octaphenylamino Silsesquioxane Imide Resin

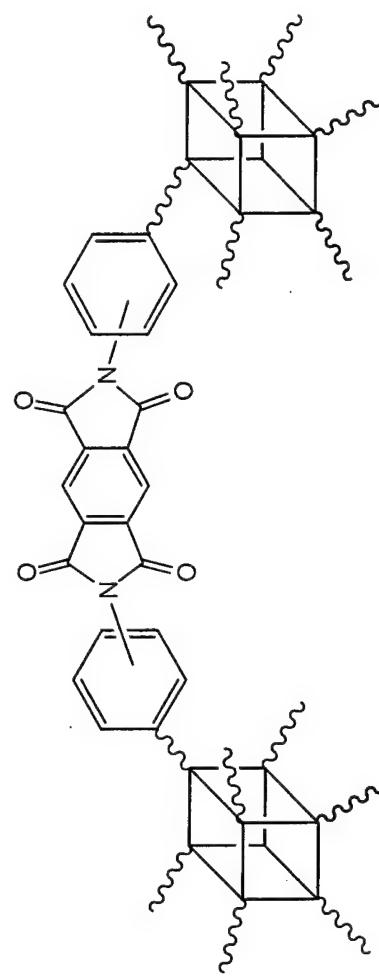
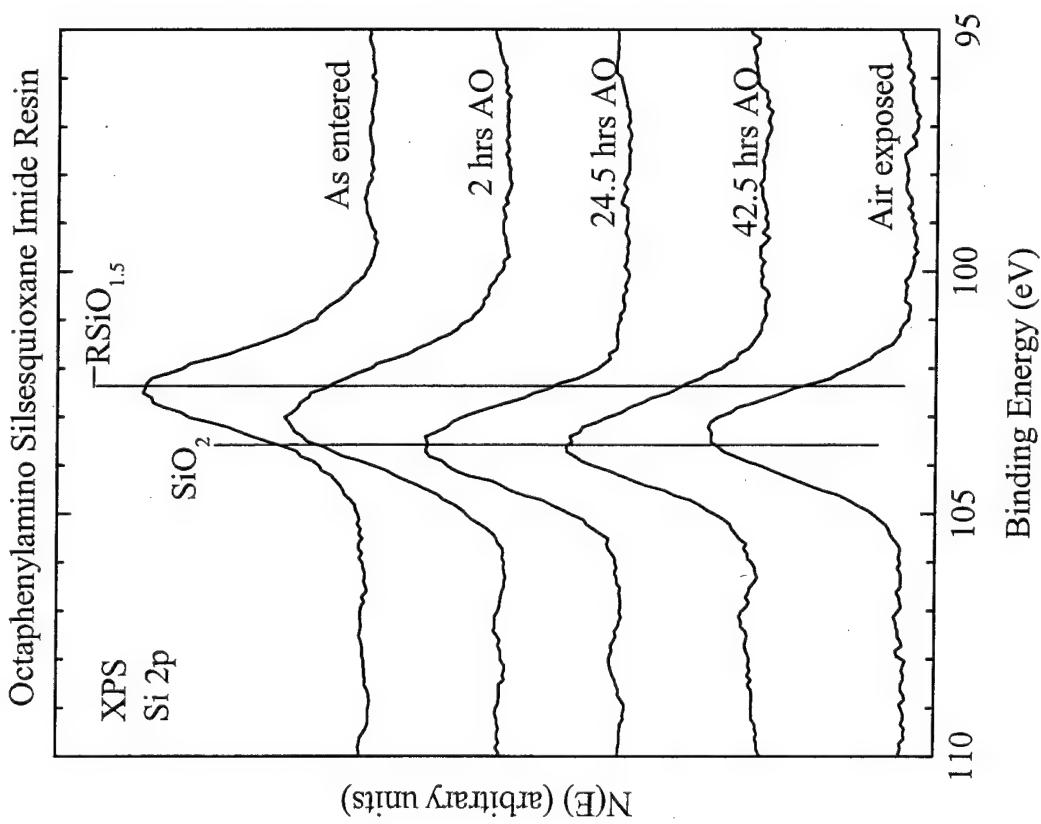
## Octaphenylamino Silsesquioxane Imide Resin



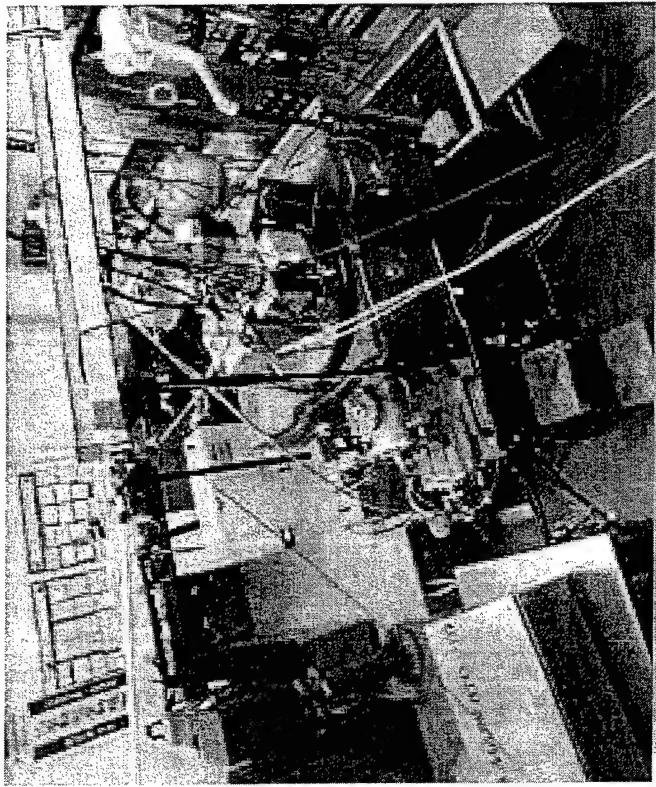
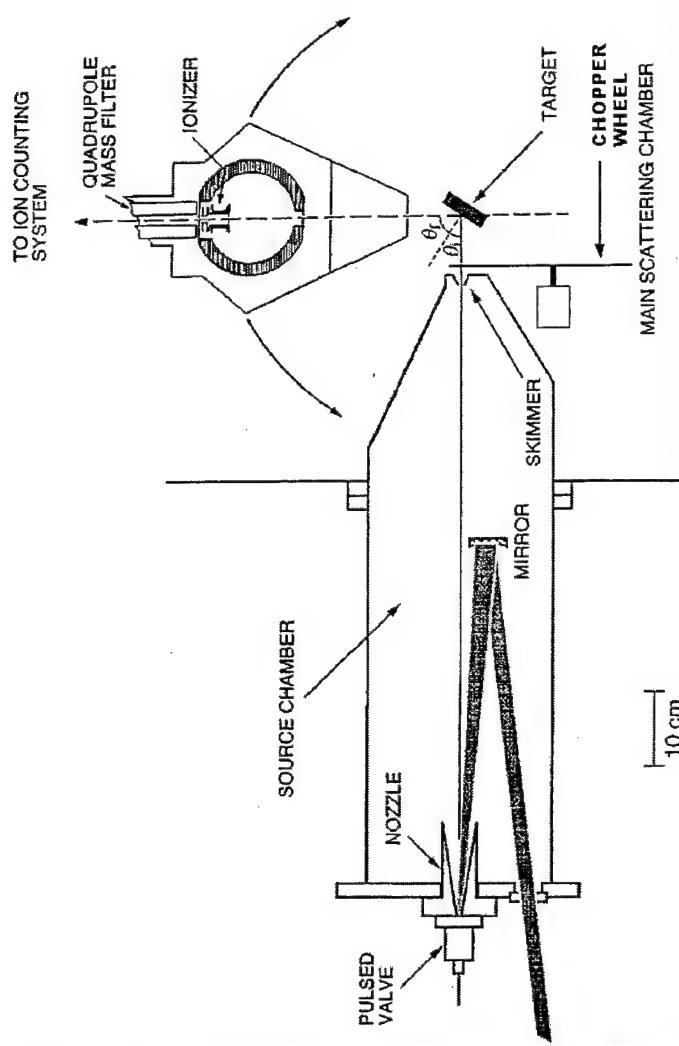
Composition, at %

Sample Treatment	O 1s	C 1s	N 1s	Si 2p	O/Si
as entered	18.1	60.5	1.7	19.7	0.9
2 hrs	22.8	57.1	2.1	18.0	1.3
24.5 hrs	18.7	67.9	1.1	12.3	1.5
42.5 hrs	16.2	71.3	2.4	10.1	1.6
Air exposed	19.3	71.5	0.9	8.3	2.3

## Octaphenylamino Silsesquioxane Imide Resin

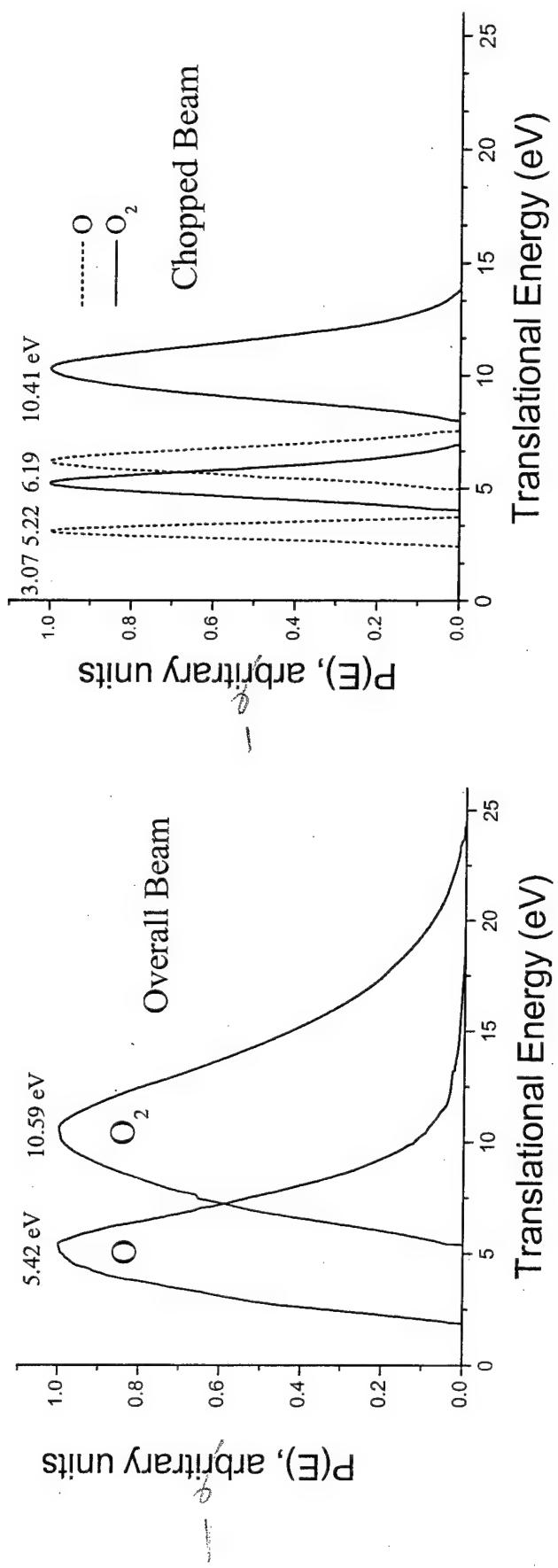


# Beam-Surface Scattering/Atomic Oxygen Test Facility



Pulsed CO<sub>2</sub> Laser Atomic Oxygen Generator

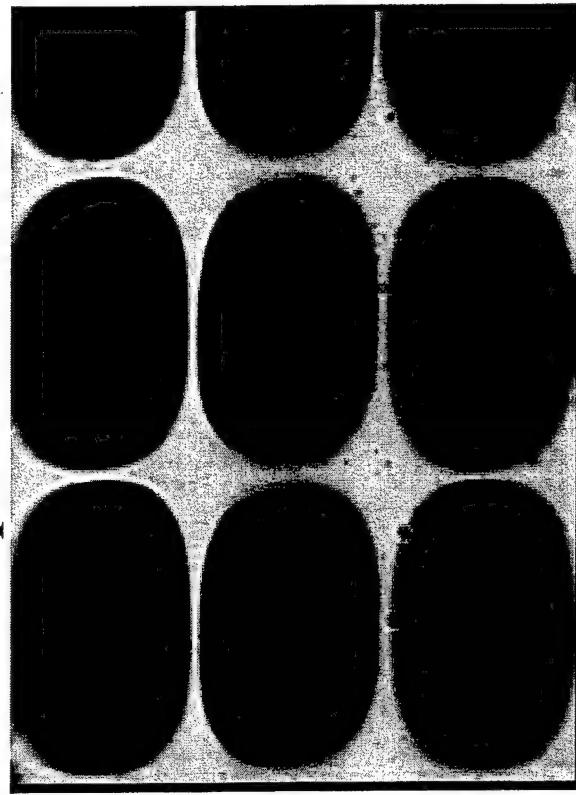
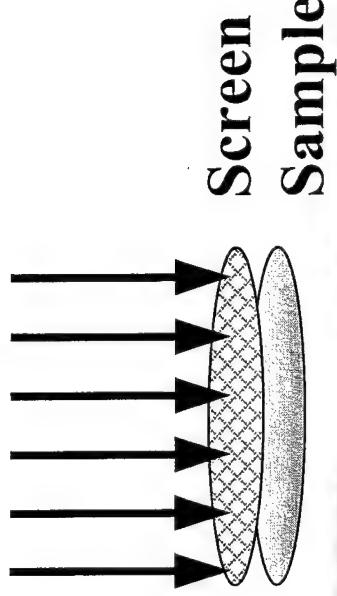
# Energy distribution beams produced by the pulsed $\text{CO}_2$ laser AO source



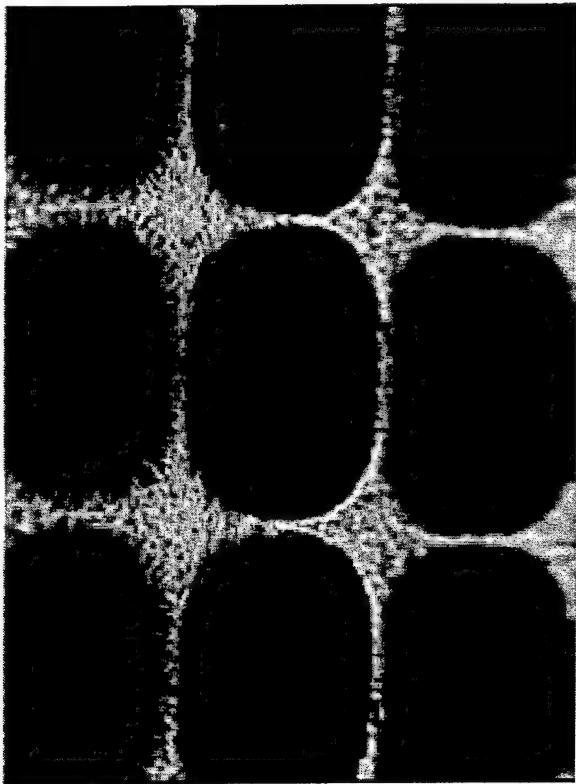
# Surface Topographical Analysis/Profilometry



Hyperthermal AO Beam



Kapton H

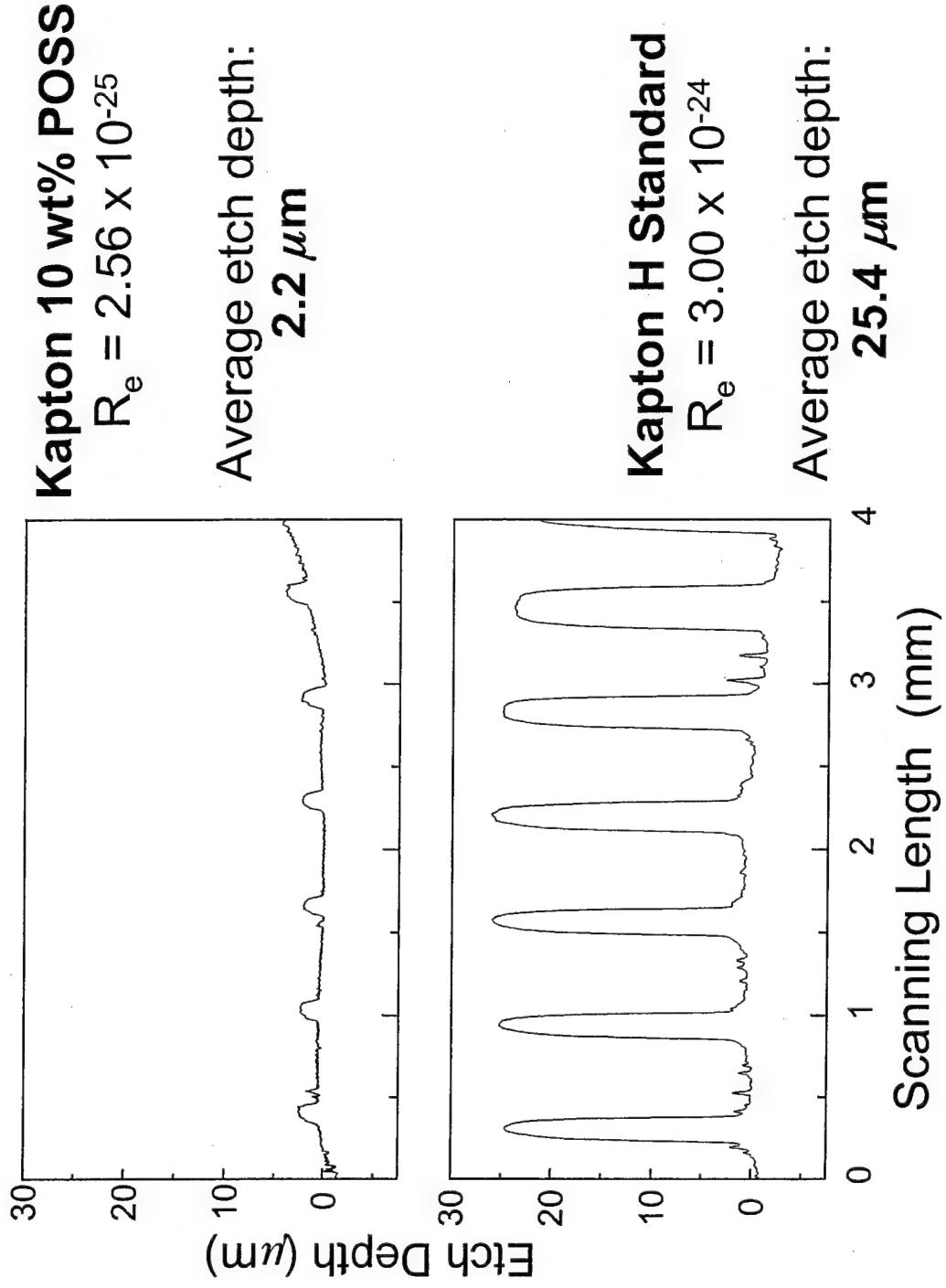


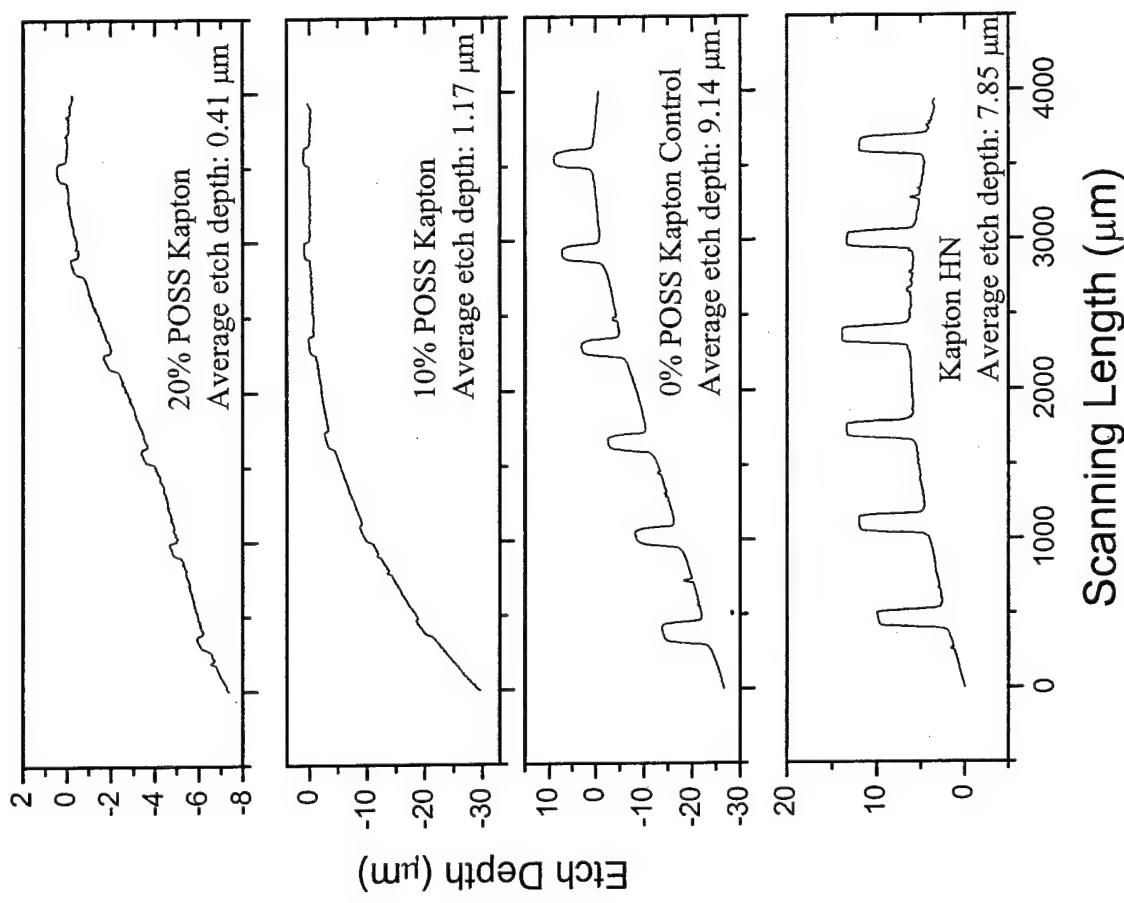
Kapton 10 wt% POSS



# O-Atom Etching Experiment

$8.47 \times 10^{20}$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-2}$





**Multiplot of profilometry measurements obtained from Kapton HN and 0, 10 and 20 wt% POSS-Kapton polyimides exposed to a total AO fluence of  $2.62 \times 10^{20}$  atoms/ $\text{cm}^2$ .**

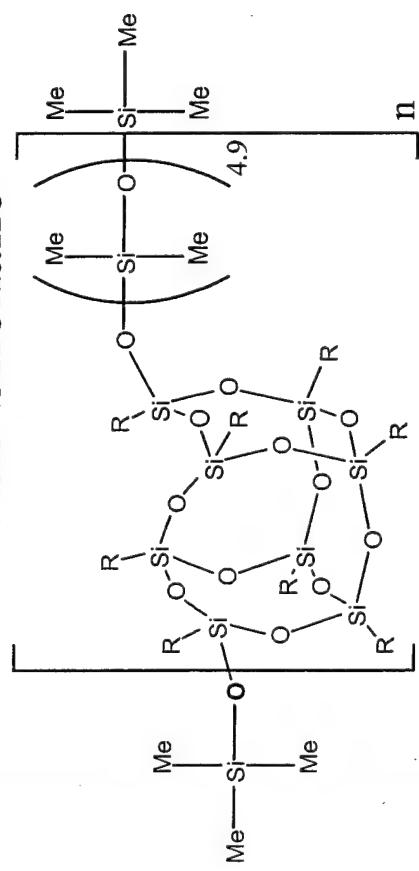


# O-Atom Etching Experiment

Total Fluence =  $2.62 \times 10^{20}$  atoms  $\text{cm}^{-2}$

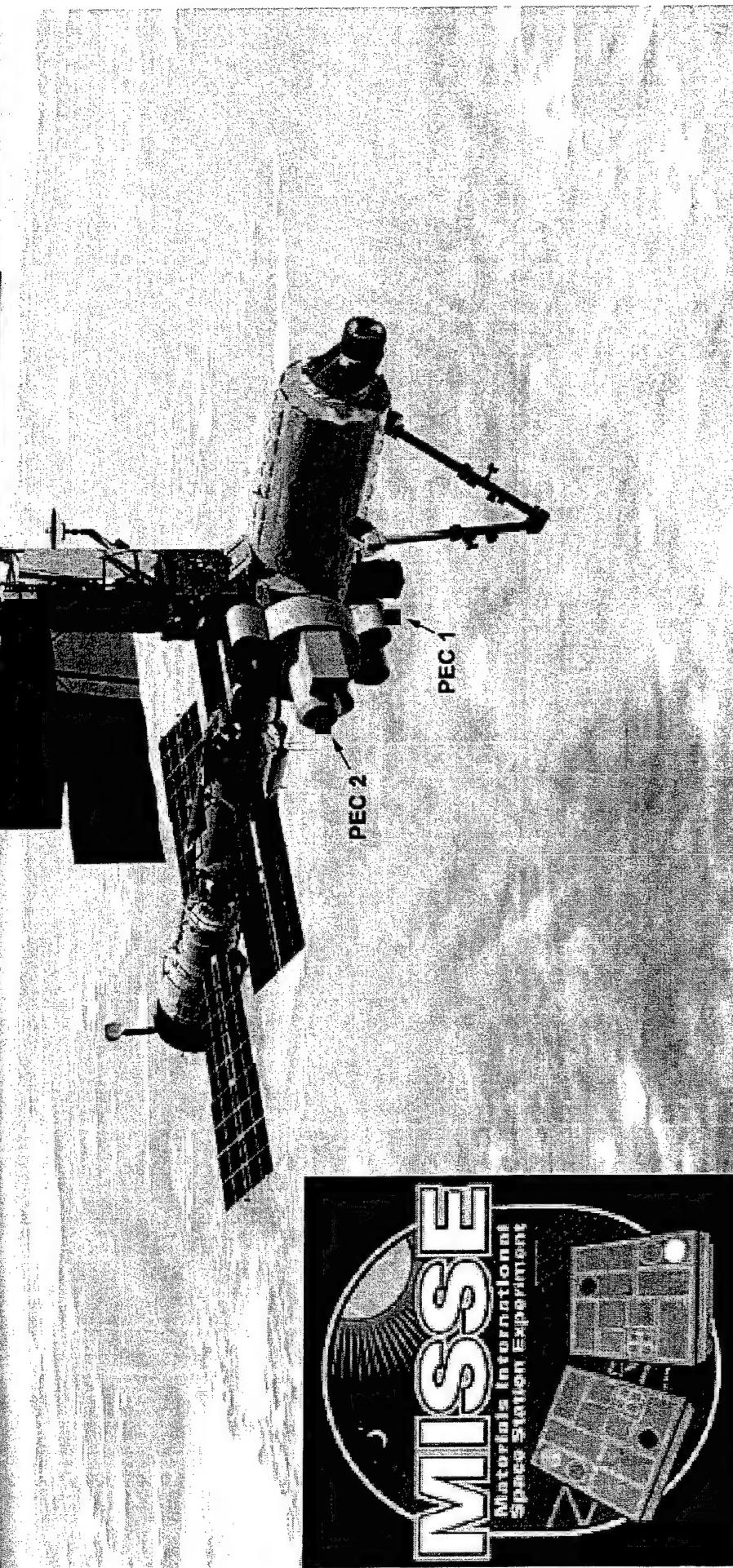
Sample	Kapton H	0% Poss Kapton Control	10% Poss Kapton	20% Poss Kapton	20% POSS- Polyurethane
Avg Etch Depth (microns)	7.85	9.14	1.15	0.41	6.05
Std Deviation	0.05	0.18	0.07	0.07	0.27
Re $\text{cm}^3/\text{atom}$	3.00E-24	3.49E-24	4.39E-25	1.55E-25	2.31E-24

## POSS Siloxane



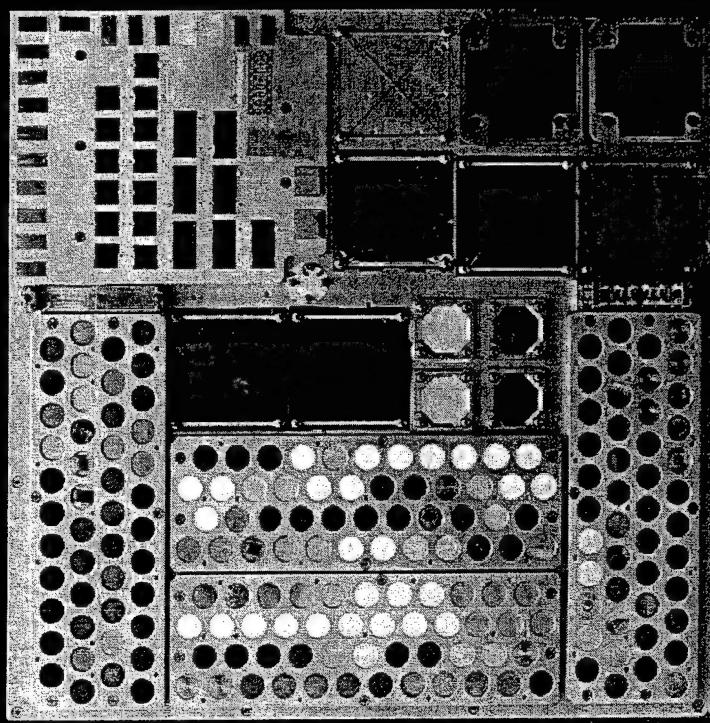
No erosion detected for POSS-  
Siloxane copolymer

# MATERIALS INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION EXPERIMENT



# MATERIALS INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION EXPERIMENT

1 YEAR AO & SOLAR  
TRAY IN PEC 1 - TRAY 1

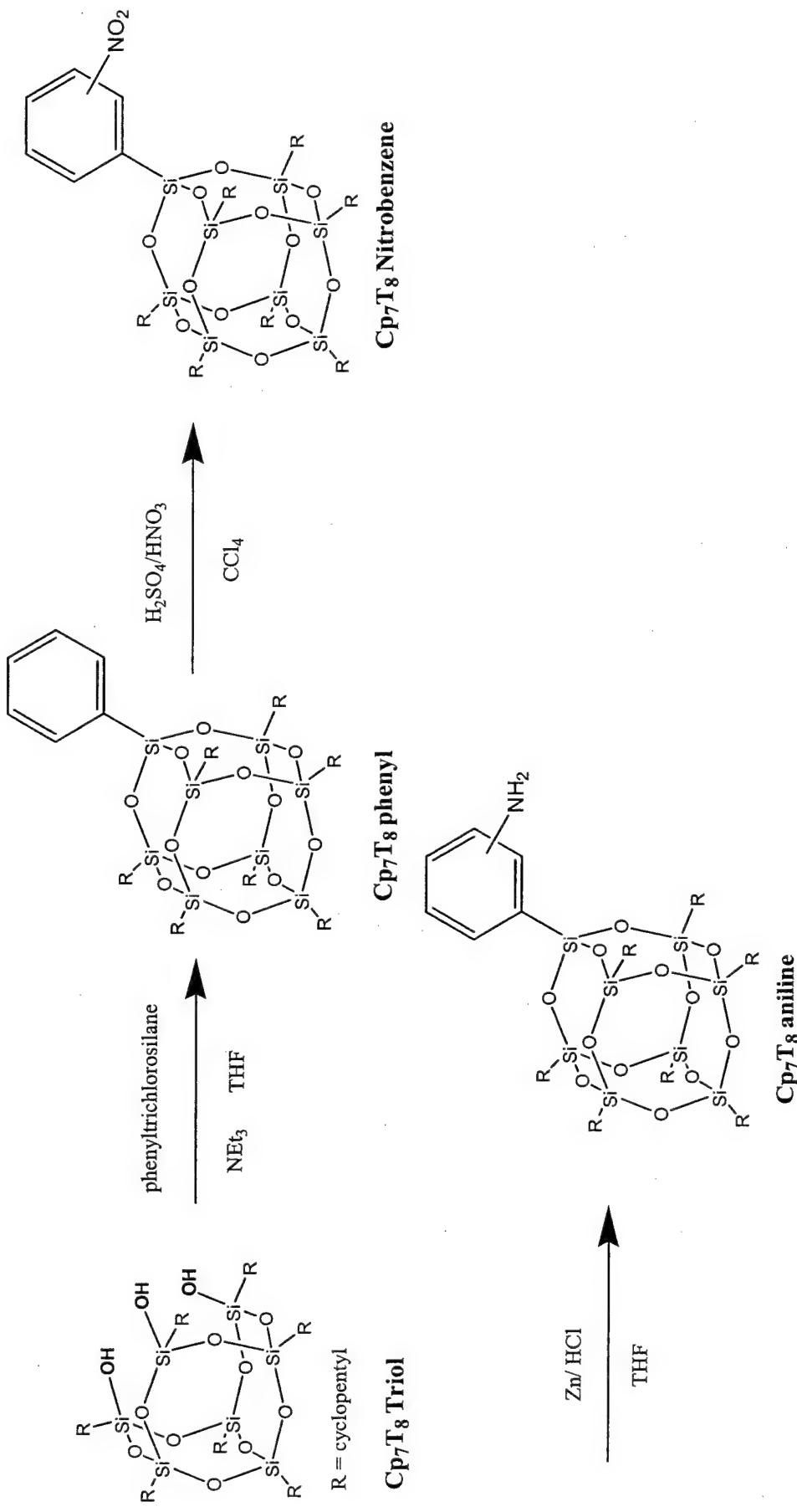


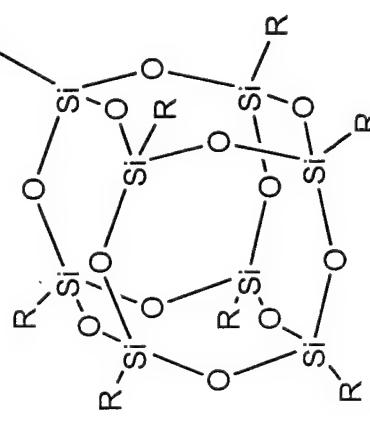
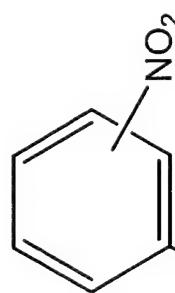
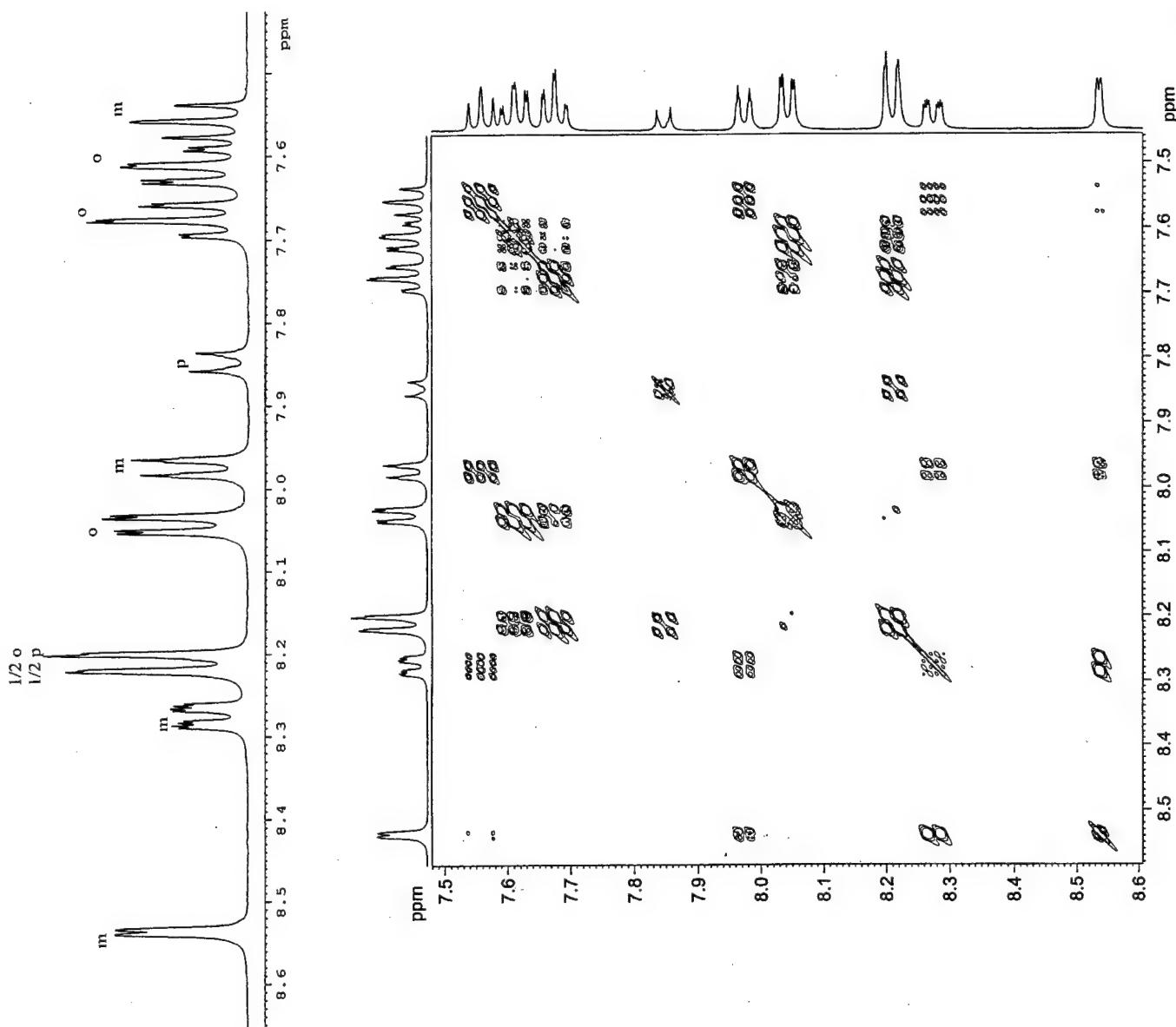
## POSS in Space

**POSS-Polymers Fly on  
STS 105 Discovery and  
are deployed on the  
Int'l Space Station**  
**16 August 2001**

Footage courtesy of NASA

# Development of Cp POSS aniline model compound



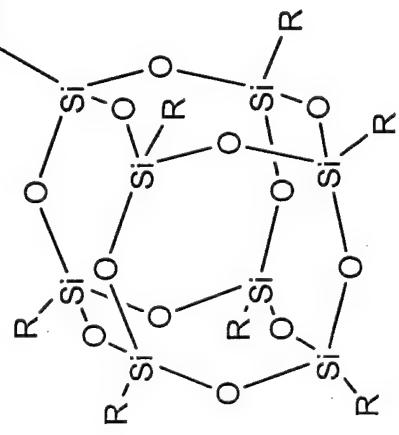
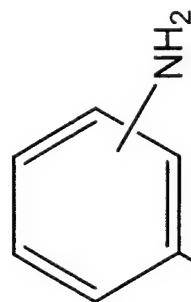
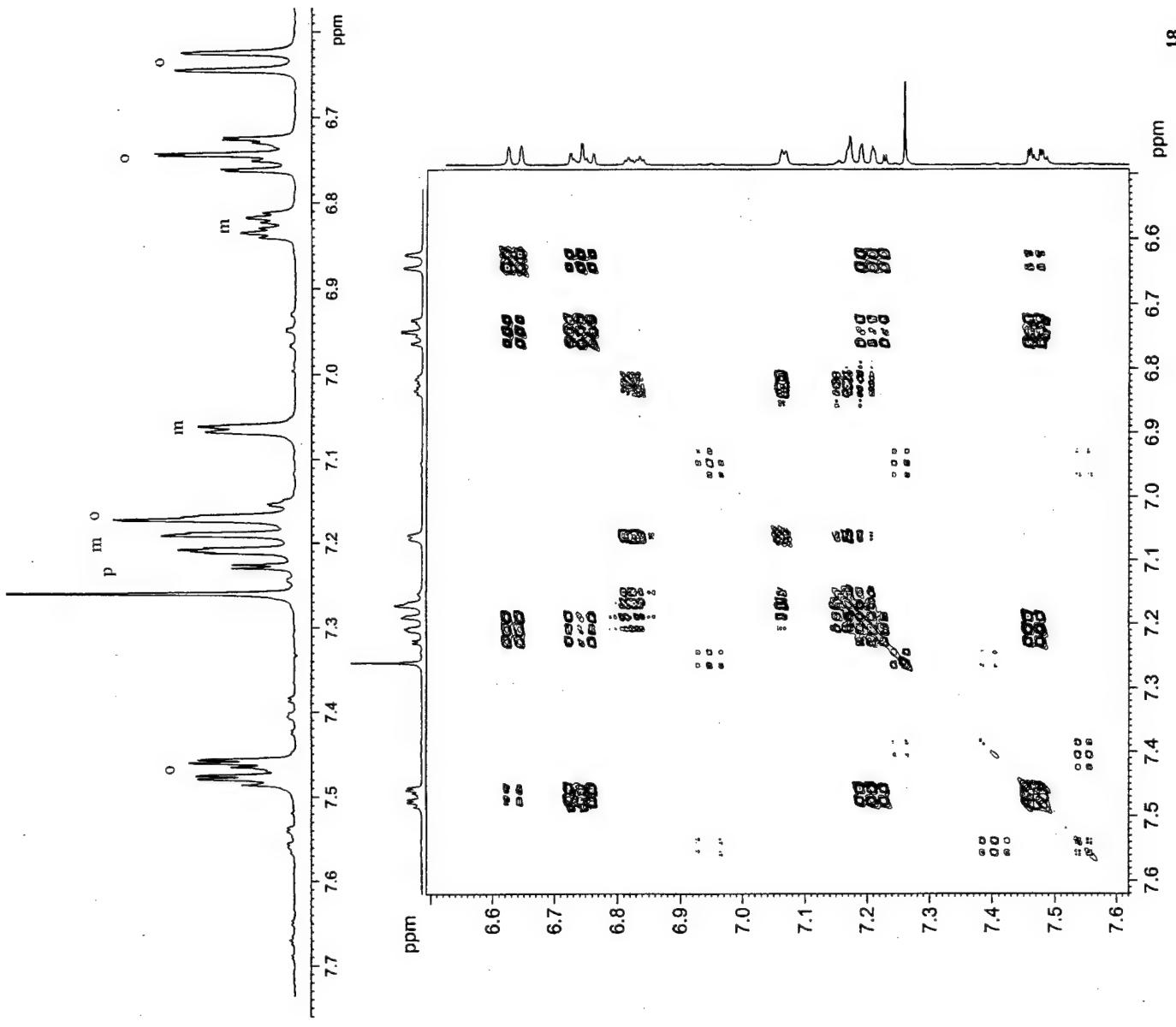


**Cp<sub>7</sub>T<sub>8</sub> Nitrobenzene**

55% ortho

37 % meta

8% para

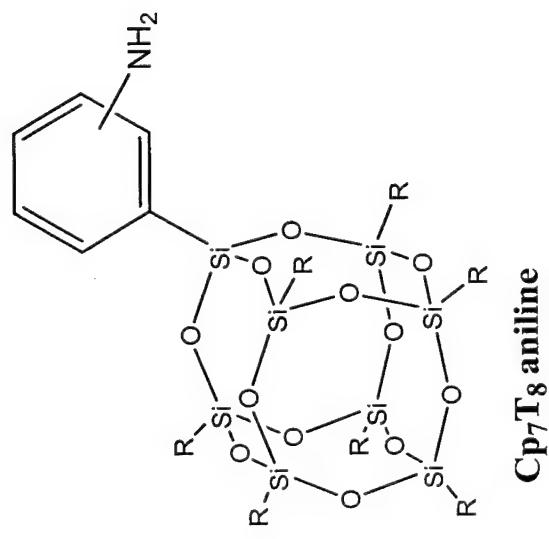
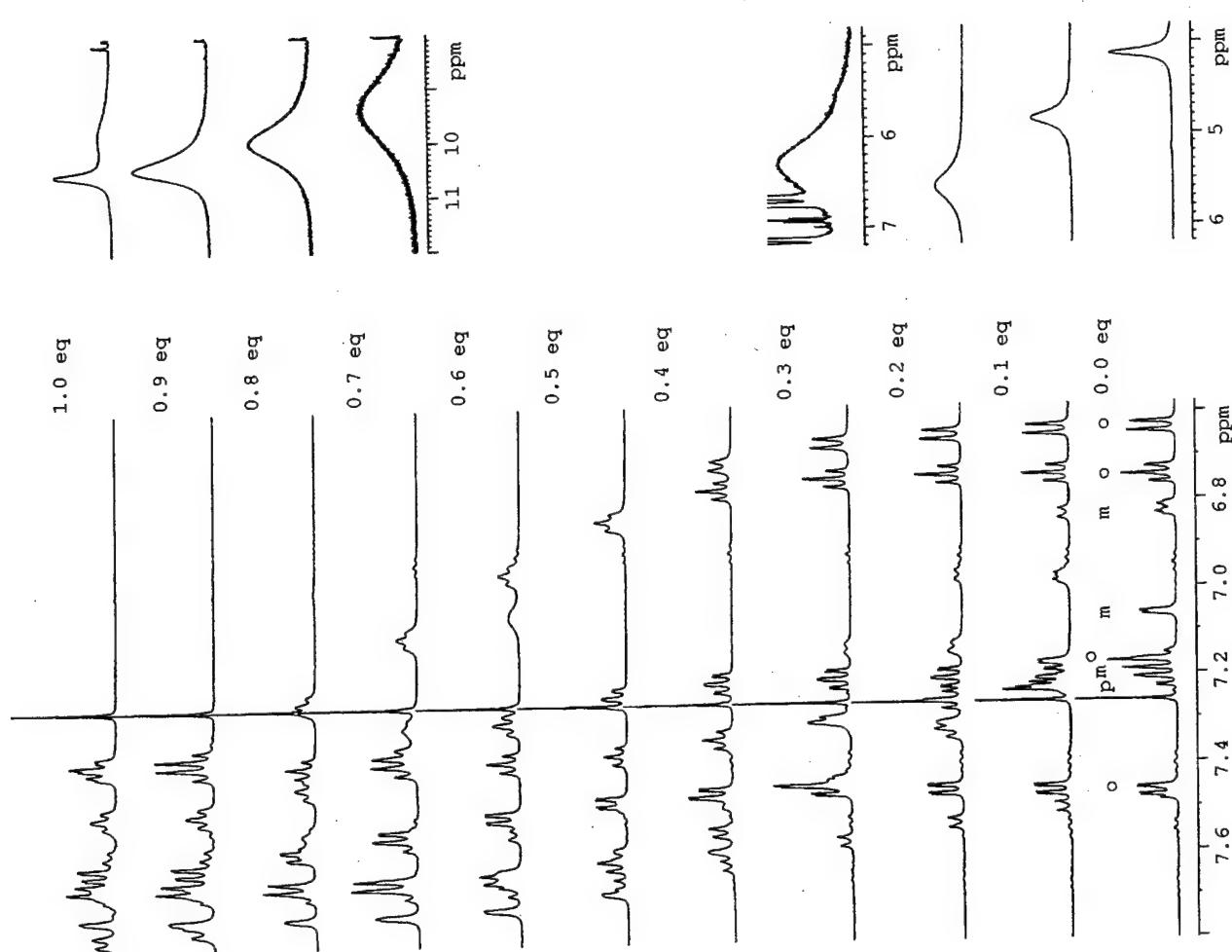


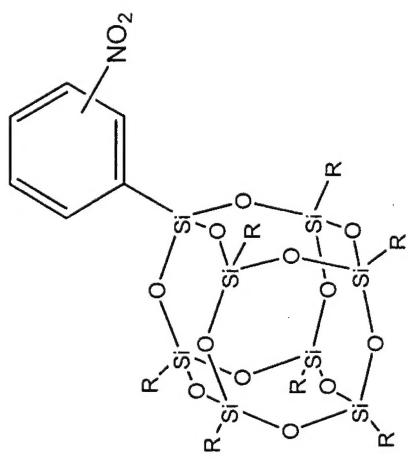
$\text{Cp}_7\text{T}_8$  aniline

57% ortho

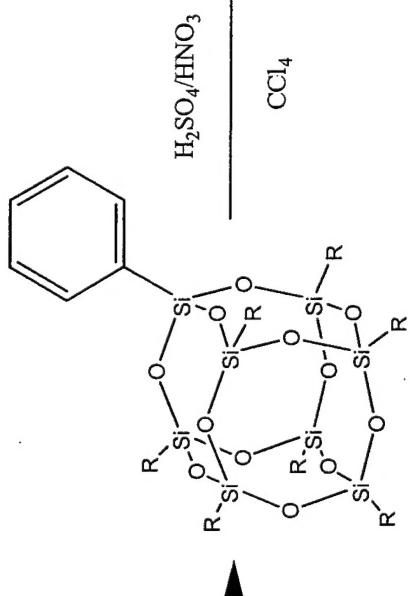
38 % meta

5% para

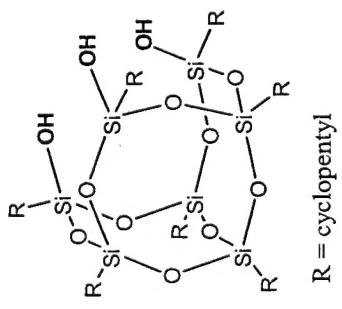




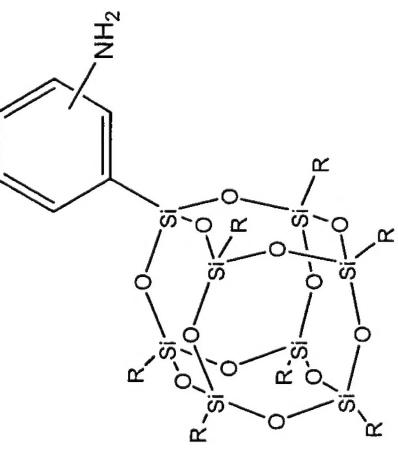
**Cp<sub>7</sub>T<sub>8</sub> Nitrobenzene**



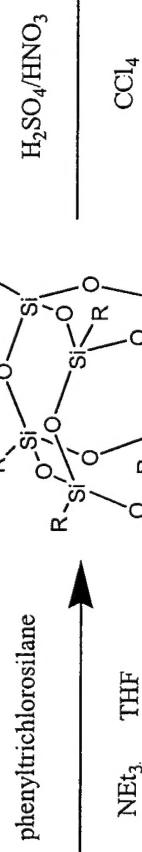
**Cp<sub>7</sub>T<sub>8</sub> phenyl**



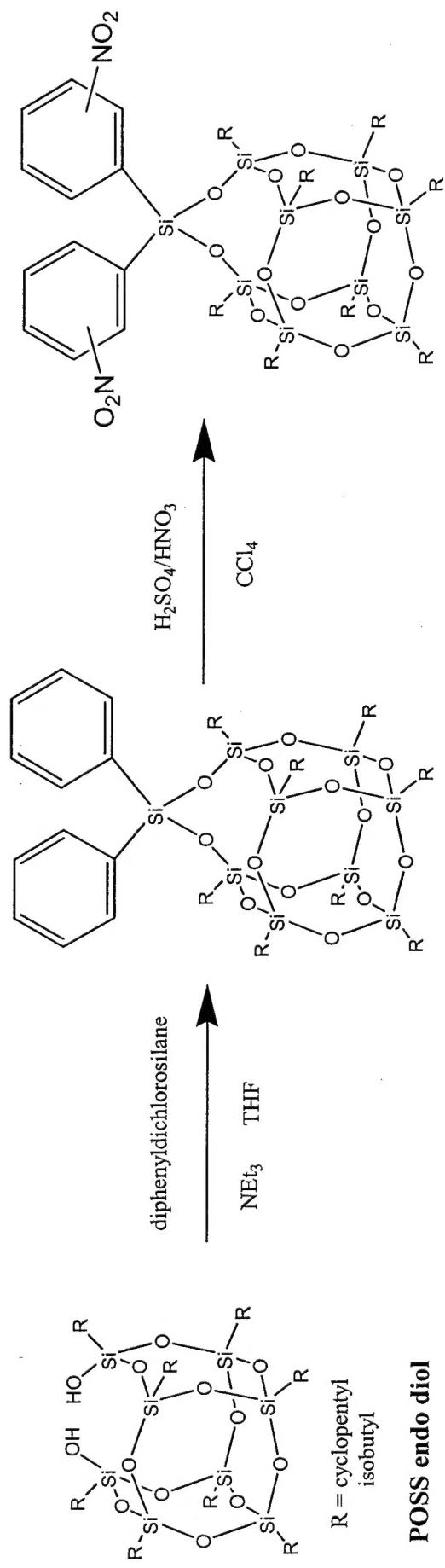
**Cp<sub>7</sub>T<sub>8</sub> Triol**



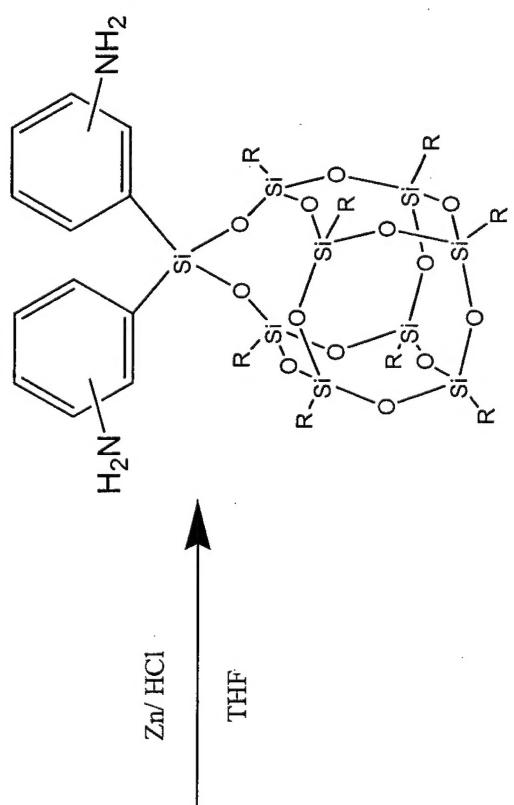
**Cp<sub>7</sub>T<sub>8</sub> aniline**



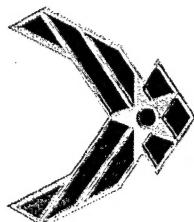
**Cp<sub>7</sub>T<sub>8</sub> Nitrobenzene**



$Cp_8$  or  $I\text{bug}$   $T_8D_1$  dinitrobenzene



Cp<sub>8</sub> or Ibug<sub>8</sub> T<sub>8</sub>D<sub>1</sub> dianiline



# Future Work

- Synthesis of other POSS-aniline monomer. AFRL & HP
- Continue AO studies on other POSS-Polymer systems at UF
  - VUV Radiation with and without AO.
  - In-Situ Characterization XPS FTIR
  - Exposure to Different Gases
  - Sputtering Effects using FABS
  - Temperature Effects
- AO Etching and Profilometry Experiments at MSU
- VUV, Proton and Electron Radiation at Aerospace

# Acknowledgements

## Polymer Working Group

**Dr. Shawn Phillips**

**Dr. Brent Viers**

**Dr. Tim Haddad**

**Maj Steve Svejda, Ph.D.**

**Dr. Rusty Blanski**

## University of Florida

**Prof. Gar Hoflund**

**Prof. Jason Weaver**

**Dr. Helena Haeglin**

**Alex Gerard**

**Paulo Morales**

**Bryan Fittsimons**

## External

**Prof. Tim Minton-MSU**

**Dr. Joe Lichtenhan - HP**

**Prof. Pat Mather - UConn**

**Dr. Howard Katzman Aerospace**

**Dr. Mike Meshsisek Aerospace**

**Dr. Gary Steckel Aerospace**

**Funding: AFOSR (Dr. Charles Lee)**

**AFRL**